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**OPINION METER**  
 This week's poll:  
 On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being the lowest and 5 the highest, how would you rate your level of confidence in the ability of the CNMI government to meet its financial obligations under the NMI Retirement Fund settlement agreement?  
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 Go to [www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com) to cast your vote.

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Seven schools showcase their creativity in the annual Parade of Floats. **PAGE 14**

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# 'Never give up on hope, people'

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
 haidee\_eugenio@saipantribune.com  
 REPORTER

» **Commonwealth hopes for more blessings, prays for those far from home on Christmas**  
 » **Governor, Legislature OK admin leave for employees**

With tourist arrivals steadily climbing, businesses seeing brisk holiday sales, and a host of festivities around the islands, Gov. Eloy S. Inos, Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP), and others hope for more blessings for the CNMI, offer prayers for the men and women in uniform celebrating Christmas in harm's way, and honor those who passed on during the year.

"Though it's been a challenging year, much progress has also been made since Lt. Governor [Jude] Hofschneider and I took office. This Christmas, we hope for more blessings to enable us to continue helping the people of the Commonwealth in the New Year. We should never give up on hope; we will not give up on the people," the governor said yesterday.

The CNMI saw for the first time this year the resignation of a sitting governor,

Benigno R. Fitial, on Feb. 20, just days after an impeachment trial at the Senate. This paved the way for Inos to become governor and for Hofschneider to become lieutenant governor.

While a political and constitutional crisis was averted and tourism is on the upswing, the government's outstanding financial obligations have been piling up, including those it is required to pay into a global Retirement Fund settlement deal.

"This time of year, let's remember loved ones who are far from us and those we have lost. Let's remember our brave men and women who continue to

**See NEVER on Page 4**



### ENCORE!

Defending champion Koblerville Elementary School kicks off the night's performances at the Paseo de Marianas, entertaining hundreds of Saipan residents and tourists with their medley of Christmas carols as part of Saturday's caroling competition.

THOMAS A. MANGLONA II

**See story on Page 15**

## Wire thieves hit Tanapag school

Copper wire thieves hit the Tanapag Elementary School over the weekend, causing a shutdown of electric power at the entire school complex. About 100 to 145 feet of secondary copper wiring were stolen, according to Department of Public Safety spokesman Travis Hurst yesterday.

**See story on Page 6**

## RENEWABLE ENERGY INTEGRATION STUDY REVEALS:

# 'Renewable energy may save NMI \$11.3M yearly'

By MONETH G. DEPOSA  
 moneth\_deposa@saipantribune.com  
 REPORTER

A study commissioned by the Common-

wealth Utilities Corp. shows that using renewable energy will bring substantial savings to the agency and its customers ranging from 10 percent all the way to 69

percent, equivalent to \$11.3 million.

CUC executive director Alan Fletcher said yesterday that the "Renewable Energy Integration Study," which has just

been completed, is designed to answer important questions concerning how much renewable energy (solar, wind) can be reliably integrated into the Saipan electrical grid, and how much money renewable energy can save the CNMI ratepayers.

**See RENEWABLE on Page 4**



# Local



## VISITING FEDERAL OFFICIALS

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Visiting U.S. Postal Inspector Service's assistant inspector in charge Rafael E. Nunez, second row, right, and postal inspector Miguel E. Montalvo, second row, second from right, out of San Francisco, California, along with CNMI Finance Secretary Larrisa Larson, CNMI Customs Director Joe Mafnas and other local and federal officials pose for Saipan Tribune after a meeting on Thursday on further improving the relationships between CNMI Customs and the U.S. Postal Inspector Service. A draft memorandum of agreement is now under review by both parties.

## Taylor's lawsuit vs Buckingham, OAG dismissed

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The federal court yesterday dismissed and closed the age discrimination lawsuit filed by former CNMI government lawyer James William Taylor against former attorney general Edward T. Buckingham and the Office of the Attorney General.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona dismissed the lawsuit after Taylor and the parties in the case reached a settlement.

Manglona retained jurisdiction of the case, however, to enforce the settlement terms.

The terms of settlement were not disclosed in court papers.

Attorney Robert T. Torres and assistant attorney general Reena Patel, counsels for Taylor and the CNMI government respectively, recently asked the court to dismiss the lawsuit in its entirety as all claims and issues between the parties had been resolved.

The parties agreed that each would bear their own attorney's fees and costs.

Last August, U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge Joaquin V.E. Manibusan

said the parties and their lawyers in Taylor's lawsuit met him for a settlement conference and that a settlement between the parties was achieved.

Taylor, a retired U.S. Air Force officer and a citizen of the state of Washington, filed the lawsuit against Buckingham, the CNMI government, and the Office of the Attorney General.

Taylor alleged that Buckingham fired him in 2011 without following proper procedures to save on cost and in retaliation for his advice against the approval of some sole-source contracts.

In his reply to the lawsuit, Buckingham argued, among other things, that Taylor's claims are barred, in whole or in part, because they were not timely filed.

The Office of the Attorney General had filed a motion to dismiss the claims. The OAG asserted, among other things, that Taylor had not stated sufficient facts to support his Age Discrimination in Employment Act claim as his complaint alleges that cost savings, rather than age, motivated the alleged adverse action.

## Salvation Army delivers toys to DYS

The Salvation Army wrapped up its annual toy drive yesterday after ministry leader Wayne Gillespie and volunteers delivered more than 160 toys to the Division of Youth Services.

Gillespie said he was relieved that the organization was able to come through for the DYS children this year, following an 11th hour surge of toy donations from the community.

"We gave at least two toys each to all of the kids. Some of them got two and some of them may have gotten more than that. We had close to 90 recipients."

Gillespie thanked Bank of Hawaii, the Rotary Club of Saipan, and anonymous corporate and individual sponsors for their donations. He admitted that the toy drive had an inauspicious start, as donations were a bit slow this year.

"The toy drive raised our blood pressure and it caused us to lose sleep. But at the last minute the community came through. Most of those who res-

cued us want to remain anonymous and we respect that. One business in particular donated a lot of toys and wants to remain anonymous. Several individuals also donated out of pocket and came in at the last minute. A lot of kids will be happy this Christmas."

Yesterday's delivery to DYS concluded a hectic three days for the group and its cadre of hardworking volunteers.

"We were up last night wrapping gifts and still wrapping gifts this morning. Toy drives may sound simple thing but it involves a lot of logistics. Main crux of the toy drive was done in the last three days and we were almost working round the clock. You have to wrap the gifts, sort them out, and divide them by gender."

Gillespie said around 10 people volunteered for the toy drive. Around 30 or so helped in the group's other holiday activities, like manning the soup kitchen and helping in their kettle drives. *(Mark Rabago)*

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# Waiter allegedly raped woman 4 times on Tinian

Police arrested Friday a 41-year-old waiter at the Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino who allegedly raped a woman four times, including once at knifepoint, and threatened to kill her and her husband.

Abu Yousuf was taken to Superior Court yesterday morning for a bail hearing on charges of sexual assault in the first degree, assault with a dangerous weapon, assault and battery, assault, theft, and disturbing the peace.

Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho imposed a \$50,000 cash bail for Yousuf's temporary release. Assistant public defender Matthew Meyer was appointed as Yousuf's counsel.

Preliminary hearing will be

on Dec. 31, 2013.

Police detective Shawn Lee SN. Borja stated in his report that the alleged victim and her husband came to the Department of Public Safety on Tinian last Tuesday, Dec. 17, to file a complaint against Yousuf.

Borja said that during the interview with a police officer, the alleged victim kept crying, saying she was scared for her life.

Borja said the investigation showed that the couple met Yousuf at a beach a few months ago. A few days later, Yousuf started calling the alleged victim on the phone, saying he can provide better for her.

The alleged victim told Yousuf to stop calling her be-

cause she is married already. Yousuf allegedly threatened to kill her husband if she refuses to talk to him.

One day, as her husband was at work, Yousuf, who was armed with a knife, allegedly entered her room, threatened to kill her if she makes any noise, tied her hands with a scarf, then at knifepoint raped her. Yousuf allegedly threatened to kill her and her husband if she tells anyone about it.

He also allegedly raped her three other times and that the last one was in November, just two days after her birthday.

Last Dec. 12 at 9am, Yousuf allegedly entered her room again, but she fought him off

and she ran away. She sustained scratches on her face and neck.

One time, Yousuf allegedly told the alleged victim that he

stole her dress and that he would tell her husband that they're having an affair so he would leave her and he could marry her. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**

## Associate Judge Kim-Tenorio reports for work

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie\_deltorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Teresa Kim-Tenorio reported for work yesterday as the newest Superior Court associate judge.

Upon the suggestion of Presiding Judge Robert Naraja, Associate Judge Kim-Tenorio sat next to Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho to watch the latter conduct hearings.

Camacho covered Rule 5 bail hearing, a juvenile hearing, bail

modification hearing, and bench warrant hearings.

Kim-Tenorio was seen making notes during the hearings.

"I was happy to have her next to me," Camacho said.

*Saipan Tribune* learned that Kim-Tenorio has no specific assignments yet as the proposed court calendar was not approved as of

yesterday.

Traditionally, a new judge will handle small claims.

Gov. Eloy S. Inos swore Kim-

Tenorio into office as the newest associate judge two days after the Senate confirmed her appointment.

Kim-Tenorio used to serve as legal counsel for Inos.

A juris doctorate graduate of New England School of Law in Boston, Kim-Tenorio received her certification under the CNMI Bar in May 2004 and the Michigan Bar in 2002.



**Kim-Tenorio**

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<b>David M. Cing</b> Marianas Trench (New Release) La Rasa Taga Riders	<b>Frank M. Pangelinan "Bokonggo"</b> Cha Cha Medley Vol 2 Cha Cha Medley Vol. 6 Meena Cheluhu Vol. 8 Second Release
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# \$3.264M in poker fees for SHEFA, other Saipan programs now law

Gov. Eloy S. Inos urged the Legislature to give utmost priority to programs needing most funding and are most beneficial to the community, as he signed into local law a measure appropriating \$3.264 million in poker license fees to fund the Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance and other Saipan precinct projects in fiscal year 2014.



Inos

House Local Bill 18-26, Substitute 1, Draft 1 is now Saipan Local Law 18-7.

"While I approve this measure, there is an important dis-

inction that must be made. 10 CMC 3822 requires that SHEFA program be the first priority from funds collected from the local poker fees for the Third Senatorial District. The measure before me requires all programs listed to be proportionately disbursed without any priority given to SHEFA. As such, all programs shall be disbursed proportionately," the governor told the Legislature.

The governor hopes that enough funds will be generated to accommodate all the

items listed for appropriation.

"Still, I urge the Legislature to carefully review the programs and projects in the future to ensure the activities needing the most funding and that are most beneficial to the community as a whole are given priority," he said in his Thursday transmittal message to Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation chair Rep. Ray Tebuteb (Ind-Saipan) and House Speaker Joseph Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan).

Saipan lawmakers passed the bill on Nov. 27. It was authored by Reps. Ralph Yumul (Ind-Saipan) and John Paul

Sablan (Cov-Saipan).

Under the newly signed local law, \$3 million of the total \$3.264 million is set aside for SHEFA.

The remaining \$264,000 is allocated as follows: \$100,000 for SHEFA operations; \$25,000 for the Saipan Little League; \$8,000 for the Annual Flame Tree Arts Festival; \$5,000 for the Agricultural Fair; \$10,000 for the Saipan Fishing Derby; and \$8,000 for Liberation Day activities.

Others on the list are \$25,000 for the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation operational funds; \$34,000 for the repair, main-

tenance and rental equipment for the Saipan Mayor's Office; \$30,000 for the Carolinian Affairs Office for the development of an island cultural village; and \$19,000 for the

construction and paving of the Gillette Gymnasium Road, which will have matching funds from a private company doing business in the area. (Haidee V. Eugenio)

## Small craft, high surf advisories out

The CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management said yesterday that fresh to strong trade winds and combined seas of 9 to 11 feet are expected to produce hazardous conditions for operators of small craft over the next few days.

Hazardous surf of 8 to 10 feet will fall slowly to 7 to 9 feet by late Wednesday, then fall below hazardous levels Wednesday night. A small craft advisory is now in effect through early Friday morning.

Winds of 25 to 29 mph and combined seas of 9 to 11 feet are expected to produce hazardous conditions for operators of small craft over the next few days. A high surf advisory is now in effect until 6pm Wednesday.

On north facing reefs, hazardous surf of 8 to 10 feet will fall slowly to 7 to 9 feet by late Wednesday then fall below hazardous levels Wednesday night.

Hazardous surf is no longer expected along west facing reefs but strong rip currents may still occur.

The public is advised to avoid venturing near exposed reefs and beaches, especially those along north and west facing reefs as rip currents is life threatening.

Inexperienced mariners, especially those operating smaller vessels, should avoid boating in these conditions. If travel by boat is necessary, exercise caution, especially near reef lines and when entering or leaving harbors and inlets. (PR)

### ADVERTISING FEATURE

## Christmas fare at Hyatt beckons

Hyatt Regency Saipan has a full spread waiting for diners at the Garapan landmark this Christmas.

Beginning today, Hyatt will be serving Christmas Eve Lunch at both Kili Café and Terrace at Miyako.

The buffet at Kili Café and Terrace is from 11:30am to 2pm and costs \$26 per person, while those pining for Japanese food can just mosey down to Miyako where buffet lunch costs \$28.

Both outlets will also be offering Christmas Eve Dinner from 6am to 9am. The buffet at Kili Café and Terrace is \$55 and \$35 for Club at the Hyatt members. The price is inclusive of beers, iced tea, soft drinks, wine, and mulled wine.

Buffet at Miyako is also priced at \$55 per person, \$27.50 for children, and \$35 for Club at the Hyatt members. It is inclusive of Japanese cocktail and beer.

Hyatt's Italian restaurant, Giovanni's, is also offering a set menu for Christmas Eve. The price ranges from \$70 to \$90 per person, \$40 for children, and \$50-\$70 per person for Club at the Hyatt members.

The set menu at Teppanyaki, meanwhile, is \$150 per person, \$40 for children, \$120 per person for Club at the Hyatt members.

Giovanni's, Kili Café and Terrace, and Miyako will



also be serving Christmas Day Brunch and Christmas Day Dinner on Dec. 25 with the same price points as the Christmas Eve promotions.

In addition, Hyatt is also selling specialty gift cards during the holiday season involving its health spa and lunch and dinners buffets.

For reservations and for more information about Hyatt, call 234 1234 Ext. 26. (Saipan Tribune)

### RENEWABLE

From Page 1

The study was performed by DNV KEMA Energy & Sustainability, a major international firm with extensive experience in the integration of renewable energy resources.

The results of the study indicate that renewable power of up to about 25 percent of Saipan's peak power demand—about 8 megawatts—can be integrated without causing grid instability.

The report, however, cautions that even this level of renewable penetration can only be achieved if the renewable energy generation sources are dispersed in different parts of the island, rather than a single installation at one location. This is necessary in order to avoid triggering grid instability in cases of sudden drops in output.

"The study has generated new policy questions for CUC in how renewable energy development, net metering, and general interconnection requirements are handled. By example, to achieve higher levels of renewable energy into the system, CUC might insist on the installation of ramp-rate control (energy storage) paid by customers and developers when first installed. Otherwise, CUC

would have to shoulder the cost of storage later on, thereby creating a liability for ratepayers," according to Fletcher.

Based on the 52-page document, results reveal that the potential savings from different renewable energy penetration levels is from 10 percent to 69 percent—or savings ranging from \$1.6 million to \$11.352 million per year. Savings occur primarily from fuel that is burned, as well as from additional savings from taking diesel generating units offline, at higher renewable penetration percentages.

Fletcher said that CUC computed the average savings to consumers on the basis of the predicted cost reductions, and on the basis of purchasing solar PV (photovoltaic) power at the lowest proposed cost received so far of \$0.185 per kWh, and determined that the per-kilowatt hour (kWh) cost of electricity would drop by about seven-tenths of a penny, or \$0.007 per kWh, for a total 8 MW of solar PV, which is equal to the maximum 25 percent that can be installed. Part of the reason for the small savings, Fletcher said, is that the 25 percent of peak power capacity represents less than 5 percent of annual energy use, due to the part-time nature of solar and wind energy.

CUC, however, cautions that even this level of savings will only occur for renewable power, which is purchased through a power-purchase agreement.

"Customer installed renewable energy, such as net metering installations, will not result in any savings for most CUC customers. Net metering installations only save money for the customer who has installed them. Thus, savings to the CNMI as a whole will not happen unless the remaining 5 MW is sold as a power purchase agreement, or if future net metering customers are instead treated as independent power producers and power is purchased from them at a rate low enough to result in a net savings to the utility's customers. It is possible that further increases in net metering customers may, in fact, result in rate increases due to the way CNMI's net metering policy is structured," he said.

CUC will be reporting to the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission this spring on the *Net Metering Interconnection Requirement Standards* and plans to address the policy questions and its overall renewable plans at that time.

At present, there is about 1 MW of renewable energy already installed and feeding into the Saipan electrical grid, and

CUC has approved applications for about an additional 2 MW. This means that it may be possible to install an additional 5 MW of renewable energy, without causing the grid to become unstable.

"Integration of renewable energy beyond 25 percent is possible, but would require energy storage to provide the needed ramp-rate control. Again, this is needed to prevent the sharp drops and spikes in power that tend to cause grid instability. Ramp rate control requires the installation of batteries and control electronics that are not ordinarily a part of a traditional solar PV or wind system, and consequently increases costs. Beyond 75 percent renewables, what is known as diurnal storage becomes necessary," said Fletcher.

This means this will require significant energy storage capable of providing a steady output of power over a longer period of time. In the CNMI, this translates to battery storage, which at the current time would likely result in high electricity costs in excess of current diesel generation costs. Future conditions may change this, such as if fuel prices rise substantially, and/or if the cost of renewables and energy storage drop.

### NEVER

From Page 1

defend our freedom. We pay homage to our heroes who have given their lives in the name of ours. It is a special time for us to acknowledge how much we have been blessed by the love of family and the gift of friendship with one another," the governor added.

Sablan, the CNMI's first and so far only nonvoting delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives, separately said he is "always very grateful for the support of our people and I will continue to work as hard as I can to represent the Northern Mariana Islands in Congress in the challenging days ahead."

"Christmas is certainly the most wonderful time of the year here in the Northern Mariana Islands. Andrea, our families, and I extend to the people of the Northern Mariana Islands our best wishes on Christmas and the holiday season," he said.

House minority leader George Camacho (R-Saipan) extends his "warmest" holiday greetings "most especially to our service men and women who cannot be with their family and friends over the holidays because they are protecting our freedom."

"I look forward to everyone working together for our people and continuous growth in our economy as we work toward a stronger, better Commonwealth," Camacho said.

Senate floor leader Ray Yumul (Ind-Saipan), for his part, called on the community to "remember those that have left us this year and remember them in our prayers."

"I would like to wish every-

one a safe and joyous holidays and New Year to come," he added.

Rep. Edmund Villagomez (Cov-Saipan), chairman of the Committee on Commerce, said he looks forward to continue working "for the people and with my fellow colleagues, and the administration to try to make things better in the CNMI."

### Administrative leave

Meanwhile, the governor issued a memorandum yesterday granting administrative leave today for the Executive Branch's non-essential employees from 12:30pm through 4:30pm, and on Dec. 31, also for the second half of the work day.

"However, be advised that this shall not apply to all annual leave requests already approved before this issuance," the governor said in his one-page memo to all department/activity heads.

Senate President Ralph Torres (R-Saipan) and House Speaker Joseph Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) also granted the same administrative leave for employees at the Legislature.

### Rescheduled

In other news, press secretary Angel Demapan said today's swearing-in of newly confirmed Labor Secretary Edith DeLeon Guerrero has been rescheduled for Thursday, 11am, in the governor's conference room on Capital Hill.

The swearing-in comes days after the Senate confirmed the nomination of DeLeon Guerrero, Superior Court Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio, Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. board trustee Roy Rios and Commonwealth Development Authority board member Ignacio Perez.





## Many retirees want to return to the workforce

**SALVI VILLANUEVA/NMC**  
Northern Marianas College Workforce Development and Apprenticeship Program, through its partner, Community Development Institute, awards certificates of completion to a cohort of retirees and other students who completed the Customer Service Series and Computer Literacy Skills course. These courses were designed to help retirees and other individuals who would like to transition back into the workforce.

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**  
moneth\_deposa@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Retirees who want to upgrade their skills in order to find jobs on islands can now do so, thanks to the Northern Marianas College.

A handful of retirees who have been affected by the 25-percent cut in their pension checks were recently assisted by NMC with free training courses and certificate programs that would help them go back to the workforce.

"The 25-percent reduction in retirement benefits has impacted many of our retirees, and some of them have considered reentering the workforce. We wanted to help many of these retirees by extending these skill development courses to them for free so that they can transition back to the workforce," said David Attao, dean of administration and resource development at the college.

The NMC Workforce Development and Apprenticeship Program, through its partner, Community Development Institute, recently awarded certificates of completion to retirees and other students who completed the Customer Service Series and Computer Literacy Skills course, which was designed for retirees and those individuals who would like to transition back into the workforce.

As a part of the free service, a skills and needs assessment was done on the participants. The curriculum was designed for adult workers, retirees, and other U.S. eligible individuals who are interested in learning new skills or sharpening their current skills to correspond to current workforce needs.

The courses that were offered include leadership skills, workplace culture and ethics, transitioning back into the classroom and/or work environment, customer service, time management, stress management, computer literacy, and many more. The courses started in November and ran through Decem-

ber. This program is funded by Commonwealth workers fees.

One retiree who took advantage of this program is Mira Sablan, who wants to go back to work and earn a living. She said she found the courses to be a positive and helpful experience in her search for employment.

"I really learned a lot, and the instructors really got up to help us. I know this will really help me," she said.

Equally satisfied and grateful for the opportunity to learn is Martin B. Castro, who encourages others to take advantage of opportunities the college is offering retirees like himself.

"To the general community, especially retirees...I encourage them to participate in programs like this to enhance their skills in the digital world; it's the key to broaden their minds... [and help them] to be able to explore the world through the Internet," he said.

Castro plans to take up more courses in the future to expand his knowledge and skills. "I am proud and glad to be a continuous member of this effort."

Another course participant, Dan Han, is very thankful to his course instructors and the individuals he took courses with at NMC, telling his fellow course participants, "I hope you have a better future and better job."

Saipan Tribune learned that the classes are precursors to NMC's upcoming Workforce Development Industry Series. This series is designed to meet the needs of industries by providing training and educational opportunities to U.S. eligible workers in line with industry needs.

In collaboration with NMC's partners, workers who initially receive training by NMC are then either referred for further training, or educational opportunities in an NMC academic program, the Northern Marianas Trades Institute or equivalent, apprenticeship program, WIA, and/or into businesses for those who qualify or adequately demonstrate the needed skills and knowledge.

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# Copper wire thieves hit Tanapag Elementary School

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Copper wire thieves hit the Tanapag Elementary School over the weekend, causing a shutdown of electric power at

the entire school complex.

About 100 to 145 feet of secondary copper wiring were stolen, according to Department of Public Safety spokesman Travis Hurst yesterday.

Hurst said a Tanapag Head

Start staff called DPS dispatch yesterday after noticing they had no power at 8am.

Upon further inspection, Hurst said, Head Start members determined that the power line was no longer attached to

the building.

The Head Start staff informed responding police officer David Rabauliman that the secondary power line from the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. power pole to their

building was missing.

A CUC representative later found out that 100 to 145 feet of secondary wiring had been cut from the pole and the building.

Hurst said investigators believe that the theft occurred

between 5pm on Saturday to 7:30pm on Sunday.

Hurst said the stolen secondary line provided power to the entire Tanapag Elementary School complex and not just the Head Start building.

## Flores sets up youth foundation

The Saipan Mayor's Office recently established a non-profit and tax-exempt foundation that aims to help the island's youth through after-school and summer programs and will set up youth centers with access to the Internet.

Called the Saipan Enrichment Foundation, it is headed by president Mabel Ayuyu of McDonald's Saipan, vice president/

secretary/treasurer Michael Ada of Integrated Solutions, and board members Frankie Elipitico of the Northern Marianas College and Walter Yu of FSM Recycling.

"We're looking at helping out and enhancing the cultural exchange and also offer scholarship to the youth. We could also use proceeds from the foundation for sports and

youth activities. We're trying to get these kids into work-study programs associated with the Internet and online learning," said Saipan Mayor Donald Flores in an interview Wednesday at the Saipan Mayor's Office in San Jose.

He said one of the immediate objectives of the foundation is to open a youth center with access to the Internet.

"We've seen kids after school who line up at stores [and other businesses] that have Internet connection. They use their laptops and they have no place to go," he said.

Flores' adviser, Henry Hofschneider, shares the mayor's sentiments on the need to set up youth centers.

"Our objective is to have these kids go to a safe place. It also connects kids from here to those in Japan and Korea. It's similar to the exchange pro-

gram but since we don't have the funding for travel, communication through the Internet is the next best thing. We will contact our sister cities in Japan and Korea to help us set up this communication."

If computers or laptops are made available at these youth centers, more children would be able to benefit, Flores said. "We can continue the cultural exchange with Japan and Korea for some of these kids who have no opportunity to travel. This might be helpful also to kids have no laptops or computers at home."

Flores said the youth centers could also enlist the help of retired teachers who can volunteer to teach and tutor youth who need help with their schoolwork. Ditto with coaches, who can train youth in various sports.

Hofschneider doesn't think

the planned youth centers will duplicate existing Manhoben centers on island.

"We will look at different communities that have existing and ongoing programs like that and will provide the same programs and more to areas that don't have them."

Flores said the Saipan Enrichment Foundation hopes to get money through fundraising, donations, and outreach to the business community. "If the business community sees that this program will help the community I think they might support this foundation."

He said the foundation's programs could eventually include artists and musicians, citing Bridge Capital Investment's CNMI Got Talent, "so there's support from the business community out there." (Mark Rabago)

## Senate substitute bill focuses only on NMI's 1st AG election

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**  
haidee\_eugenio@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Senate passed a substitute version of a House election amendment bill that retains only those provisions pertaining to the CNMI's first election of an attorney general in November 2014, leaving out other earlier proposals such as changing the general election from Saturday to "the Tuesday next after the first Monday in November in even numbered years."

"We focused more on the AG election... All other issues will be addressed separately, because we have lots of issues and need clarification," Senate President Ralph Torres (R-Saipan) told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

House Bill 18-107, House Draft 1, Senate Substitute 1 passed the Senate by a vote of 8-0 during Friday's session on Rota. A copy of the Senate substitute bill was transmitted only yesterday.

The bill amends CNMI election laws to provide for an AG election, reflecting voters' ratification in 2012 of a legislative initiative.

It requires that the ballots contain the names of AG candidates, establishes the qualifications of the AG position, provides for the nomination of an AG, and a runoff election for the AG.

Rep. Christopher Leon Guerrero (Cov-Saipan), author of the original bill, and Commonwealth Election Commission executive director Robert Guerrero separately said yesterday that they have yet to see a copy of the Senate version of the bill.

The election bill goes back to

the House, which can either reject or accept the Senate version.

Both the House and Senate held its last sessions for 2013 last week.

Leon Guerrero said if the House rejects the Senate substitute, there would be a conference committee on the bill, less than a year before the general elections.

Under the bill, an AG candidate shall be at least 35 years old, a U.S. citizen and a resident and domiciliary of the CNMI for at least five years immediately preceding the date on which the AG takes office.

The AG candidate must also be an active member in good standing of the Commonwealth Bar Association for at least five years preceding the date the AG takes office and have not been suspended from practice of law in any U.S. jurisdiction for ethics rules violations governing the practice of attorneys. AG candidates shall also be nominated by at least 200 voters.

The non-refundable filing fee for each AG candidate is \$500.

If no AG candidate receives more than half of the total votes cast, a runoff is required 14 days after the Commonwealth Election Commission certifies the results of the general elections.

Other House proposed changes to CNMI election laws that the Senate left out in its own version were polling hour changes for early voting, reducing from five to three the signatures of commissioners needed to verify discrepancy noted as the cause for rejection of an absentee ballot, and reduction in the number of observers from each political party from two to one.



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**DUI/SOBRIETY CHECKPOINTS****TINIAN**

- Monday, Dec. 23, from 6pm to 7:15pm, southbound lane on Broadway Road by Housing Turnkey.
- Monday, Dec. 23, from 9pm to 10:15pm, southbound lane on Broadway Road by the Youth Center in San Jose Village.
- Tuesday, Dec. 24, from 10pm to 11:15pm, eastbound lane by Route 202 by Hung Shung Supermarket.
- Wednesday, Dec. 25, from 12am to 1:15am, southbound lane on Broadway by the Youth Center.
- Monday, Dec. 30, from 8pm to 9:15pm, along Broadway Road by Natibu Park.
- Tuesday, Dec. 31, from 10pm to 11:15pm, eastbound lane by the Baseball Field.

For more information, contact Police Officer III Wally F. Villagoz at (670) 433-9222 or 433-2041.

**ROTA****TUESDAY, DEC. 24, 2013**

- 6:30pm-7:45pm, San Francisco Highway, Chaliat area.
- 9pm-10:15pm—San Francisco Highway, Guata area.
- 12:00am-1:15am—San Francisco Highway, Tatachog area.

**THURSDAY, DEC. 26, 2013**

- 6:30pm-7:45pm, San Francisco Highway, Teteto area.
- 9pm-10:15pm, San Francisco Highway, Sinapalo 2 area.
- 12:00am-1:15am, San Francisco Highway, Lotgan area.

**SATURDAY, DEC. 28, 2013**

- 6:30pm-7:45pm, San Francisco Highway, Tatachog area.
- 9pm-10:15pm, San Francisco Highway, Guata area.
- 12:00am-1:15am, San Francisco Highway, Sinapalo 3 area.

**TUESDAY, DEC. 31, 2013**

- 6:30pm-7:45pm, San Francisco Highway, Sinapalo 3 area.
- 9pm-10:15pm, San Francisco Highway, Chaliat area.
- 12:00am-1:15am, San Francisco Highway, Tatachog area.
- 2:30am-3:45am, San Francisco Highway, Lotgan area.

For more information, contact Sgt. Jarrod T. Manglona or POI Nathan A. Barcinas at (670) 532-9530 or 9433.

Each checkpoint will last at least 75 minutes (1 hour and 15 minutes). Checkpoints are subject to be terminated if it begins to rain. This activity is part of the department's effort to deter, detect and apprehend impaired driver and to ensure that all vehicle occupants are protected.

In addition, traffic officers will be conducting highway criminal interdictions and laser (speed detection) enforcement. (DPS)

Let us enjoy this Christmas which has allowed us to share our joy with near and dear ones.



# Merry Christmas to All!

From the management and staff of



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## 'AV2 books, e-books in line with Obama's STEM scheme'

The AV2 Books and e-books that the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library recently acquired is in line with President Barack Obama's initiative to strengthen the country's STEM curriculum with computer-based literacy learning, according to JKPL executive director John Oliver Gonzales.

He said that integrating computer-based literacy learning with STEM (science, technology, and math) will only make the country's students better.

"The President is challenging our nation's schools to develop the critical thinking and analytical skills of our children. It's in line with the priorities of the President as well as local educational agencies, state library administrative agencies, and the grants that are now being issued out in the pipeline, which is challenging all libraries, schools, and community colleges and universities to strengthen our curriculum in the STEM area, so we can be more marketable and more competi-

tive worldwide," he said during a demonstration of JKPL's new AV2 Books and e-books last Wednesday.

Produced by Weigl, AV2 Books are media-enhanced books that have audiovisual and multimedia components that supplement and complement printed books.

AV2 Books and e-books also reinforce quality family time among emerging readers and strengthen lifelong learners, Gonzales said.

Erlinda Naputi, JKPL library associate, said seven of the state library's staff took part in Wednesday demonstration. They include herself, Ray Deleon Guerrero, Celina Foreman,

Vicky Isburgh, Aristotle Iglesias, Kanso Sablan, and Beth Demapan.

"We showcased what we have because they are not all aware of what we received like AV2 Books and the e-books. We just did a mini-launching within the staff so they can be informed," she said.

Half of the library's AV2 Books and e-books will be on the Bookmobile while the other half would stay at JKPL.

Motheread and Fatheread coordinator Beth Demapan said AV2 Books will give children a totally different experience.

"They are considered AV2 Books because there's a lot of

Web links. It's very user-friendly. As soon as you access these books you sign in and go to the code of book and you will have a lot of Web links online. [You will] get extra materials and more in-depth information. It will not only give you cartoon image but will give you real-life images," she said. *(Mark Rabago)*



MARK RABAGO

Joeten-Kiyu Public Library executive director John Oliver Gonzales poses with the state library's staff while holdings newly acquired AV2 Books and e-books.

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## Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

### December 24, 2005

#### 'Pension checks coming'

Pension checks for retirees will be released this month as the needed funding will be coming in next week, assured Finance Secretary Fermin M. Atalig yesterday. Atalig said that the central government would be paying its employer contribution amounting to \$850,000 next week. "We will pay next week. We paid them \$300,000 last week. I hope to pay another employer contribution of \$850,000 next week," he said. The NMI Retirement Fund earlier expressed concerns over the potential lack of money to give the retirees their the last pension payment this year, saying that no government office has remitted any contribution yet for the month.

#### Bright holidays assured—CUC

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. yesterday assured that there would be no power interruption in the CNMI, as residents and visitors celebrate the holidays beginning today, Christmas eve. CUC's acting executive director, Sohale Samari, said the utility firm's power plants now have enough fuel stock that will last for days. "We have enough fuel to last us through the Christmas holiday," Samari said. He disclosed on Thursday that the CUC received another \$500,000 from the CNMI government, in addition to the same amount of subsidy given by the Finance Department to the beleaguered utility firm last Tuesday.

ment to the beleaguered utility firm last Tuesday.

### December 24, 2006

#### New retirement program to delay implementation

The government's defined contribution retirement program won't kick in as mandated by law on Jan. 1, 2007. The reason? The government has yet to finish the review of proposals for the third party administrator that will eventually handle the new program. NMI Retirement Fund administrator Mark A. Aguon said that, although he has personally reviewed the two proposals and has come up with an analysis, he has yet to confer with the Executive Branch, particularly the Governor's Office, on the matter. He said concerned officials are off-island and a meeting with them would not take place until the middle of January.

#### Refinancing of govt bonds OK'd

The Commonwealth Development Authority board has approved the refinancing of government obligation bonds totaling over \$80 million, citing its potential savings to the government. These include the \$60 million general obligation bond in 1999 and \$40 million in 2003. "We've not paid off these bonds. We want to take advantage of the lower rate at this time so we're going into a refinancing. We want savings for the government," said acting CDA executive director Oscar Camacho. He said that the CNMI

government could save up to \$5 million at its present value and it could double up to \$10 million over several years.

### December 24, 2007

#### Rebates out for Christmas

Taxpayers can look forward to a brighter holiday season with the release of \$26.4 million in tax refunds and rebates. Gov. Benigno R. Fitial announced on Friday the settlement of the dispute between the U.S. Department of Treasury and the CNMI government over federal taxes that the U.S. government failed to transfer—or "cover over"—to the local government. The settlement resulted in the transfer of \$26.4 million to the Commonwealth. The governor instructed the Department of Finance to use all of the recovered amount toward the payment of outstanding tax refunds and rebates.

#### Governor signs zoning bill into law

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial signed into law on Friday the Saipan zoning bill. The new law will go into effect on Feb. 1, 2008. After that, all new development must meet the requirements of the zoning law. Examples of new developments include the construction and major repair of buildings and signs, new businesses in existing buildings, and subdivision of land. "This law is a major step toward improving our economy and quality of life," Fitial said. "By establishing a stable pattern of land development on Saipan, we will assure developers and homeowners that their investments and neighborhoods will be protected. I especially want the Zoning Board to focus on improving development on Garapan and Beach Road."



## Need help conserving your agricultural lands?

**HONOLULU, Hawaii**—Are you interested in the permanent protection and conservation of your agricultural lands? Do you need assistance to keep your farm or ranchland in agriculture? The Natural Resources Conservation Service, a federal agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, is advising landowners to contact their local NRCS office to determine eligibility for the Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program. Applications for the 2014 ranking period for the program are due at your local NRCS office by the close of business on Jan. 17, 2014.

FRPP is a voluntary program to help farmers and ranchers preserve their agricultural land. The program provides matching funds to cooperating entities with farmland protection programs, such as state, tribal, and local governments, and nongovernmental organizations such as land trusts. FRPP may provide up to 50 percent of the appraised fair market value of a conservation easement. Cooperating entities may apply for multiple properties under one FRPP application, but must have matching funds for each

proposed property at the time of application.

NRCS in the Pacific Islands Area accepts applications for FRPP funding on a continuous basis throughout the year. However, to be considered for ranking and possible selection in fiscal year 2014, complete eligible applications must be received at the local NRCS office before the close of business on Jan. 17, 2014. Applications received after this date will be held for a future ranking period.



"We are hoping that more landowners will work with land trusts to

use FRPP to permanently conserve most productive croplands and grasslands. In addition, this is the only available easement program of USDA at this time. The Wetlands Reserve Program, Grassland Reserve Program, and Conservation Reserve Program expired on Sept. 30, 2013," said Carlos Suarez, NRCS acting director.

For more information about the Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program or to find the Natural Resources Conservation Service Office nearest you, visit [www.pia.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.pia.nrcs.usda.gov). (NRCS)

Wishing you the gift of faith,  
the blessing of hope and the  
peace of His love at Christmas  
and always.

Greetings from

*Hafa Adai!*

**Saipan Tribune**

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

May the joy of Christmas fill your hearts this holiday season.

*We wish you and your family a*  
**Merry Christmas**  
*and a Happy New Year!*

From the staff and management of





# Opinion

Hafa Adai!

## Saipan Tribune

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## Something's funny about fake interpreter

By REG HENRY  
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Reg Henry is deputy editorial-page editor for the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette. Readers may send him email at rhenry@post-gazette.com.



With another Winter Olympics starting in Sochi, Russia, in a few weeks, it is time to recall unique moments in Olympic history. Surely on the short list would be the ceremonial torch relay for the Summer Games held in Melbourne, Australia, in 1956.

As it happens, I was at the time a little Aussie boy dreaming of one day winning Olympic gold in the fidgeting and lollygagging events, which were my strengths. Perhaps in the hope of broadening my horizons, my parents took me to see the torch being carried through the city of Brisbane on its way south to Sydney and then Melbourne.

When the flame arrived in Sydney, the mayor greeted the torchbearer, took the torch and began to read his prepared speech to the waiting crowd. But somebody noticed a problem. The mayor was not holding the Olympic torch but a wooden chair leg with a plum pudding can attached, in which a pair of kerosene-soaked underpants were burning with enough smoke but insufficient ceremony.

Then the real runner arrived with the real torch. The university students who pulled off the hoax had disappeared into the crowd. Thus are great Olympic moments born, thus is pomposity defeated.

Given Vladimir Putin's ill treatment of gay people in Russia, perhaps the friskier type of students there will recruit transvestite imposters to take part in the curling events—they must know something about curling, what with their elaborate hairdos, and besides, nobody will notice because all eyes will be on the brooms. Failing that, maybe rogue choirs can sing a medley of show tunes instead of all those anthems.

We can only live in hope. As an encouragement, we can contemplate one of the unique moments in the annals of memorial services for great statesmen, thanks to the bogus interpreter for the deaf employed at the ceremony in South Africa honoring Nelson Mandela. In the presence of world leaders including President Barack Obama, the interpreter made all sorts of gestures signifying nothing.

At this point of the column, the question must be posed: What is it about the Southern Hemisphere that makes absurdities seem so natural?

Further, at this point of the column, certain disclaimers must be entered:

(1) This is not an attempt to make fun of Thamsanqa Jantjie, 34, a likely gold medalist for worst interpreter in the world. By his own admission, he has schizophrenia and is violence-prone. But this doesn't mean everybody who is schizophrenic is violence-prone or given to bogus interpretations in front of large audiences. No, if I wanted to pick on the mentally challenged, I would have the whole U.S. Congress to work with.

(2) This is not an attempt to denigrate the memory of Nelson Mandela, truly a noble soul. It was appalling that someone should mar his memorial service with such antics. Indeed, much of the commentary about this incident has been suitably solemn, citing the alleged security threat, the embarrassment, the affront to dignity and South African national pride.

What has been largely missing is any acknowledgement of just how funny this was. Come on, look past the troubled individual

See INTERPRETER on Next Page



## The sun in your eye

We had been asked by a visiting professor from Shandong province to consider tutoring advanced engineering students in talking about solar energy in English. Being a strong proponent to alternative sources of energy and power other than fossil fuel, I responded affirmatively.

Oil fields off the continental shelf on the China Sea are privilege terrain of oil companies since the 1950s. In some favorable arrangement, 45 percent of an exploration ownership is by transnational corporation, the other 45 percent is on a Chinese exploration company like PetroChina that is listed in the stock exchange, which means it is stockholder-owned and influenced, and the remaining 10 percent owned by a governmental body.

Our wild and doggedly hopeful card is that drilling of oil will eventually taper down to non-reliance as China fends off opportunism and intrusion on its sovereignty over the China Sea, while it pursues hydro, wind, solar, gas, and nuclear alternatives to fossil fuel. The nuclear option is disturbing as even the most radioactive-resistant country, Japan, in its hard-to-forget experience in receiving WWII's incendiary gifts over Hiroshima and Nagasaki, did not anticipate the intensity of Mother Nature's belching in Fukushima. Already, the radioactive influence of Fukushima has affected the rest of the world. Floating debris from the tsunami is headed toward the American West Coast!

We saw the hydro this summer in Zang country in the autonomous region in Zichuan and the practice is encouraging.

Meanwhile, Nanjing's haze looked like Sherlock Holmes' London last week, not of an inland fog but of a *mei*-fired (coal) smog; the obvious task of developing alternative energy is most urgent if China has a chance of staying healthy. I live in Shenyang that straddles the low end of the Manchurian plain, a trough between two mountain ranges, which keeps the smog in between, so I am resigned to a respiratory ailment as I stay here longer and grow older.

Late November this year in Qingdao, Shandong, a Sinopec oil refinery pipeline exploded through what is blamed as human error, i.e., a poor planning of pipe laying in a populated urban area, a lack-luster maintenance procedure, and susceptibility to danger through the city sewage system. When a leak was discovered, the area was not immediately sealed and evacuated; the ensuing explosion occurred cost 55 lives and injuries to many. Ironically, this was almost a replay of a similar incident that happened in 1988.

In mid-year 2011, ConocoPhillips oil platforms had three leaks that polluted waters six times the size of Singapore on Bohai Bay (kept from news for a month until it slipped out in a blog) north of Shandong, the third leak coincidentally occurred on the same day as a refinery at the Daya Bay Economic and Technical Development zone in Guangdong province exploded. The alarm was not only on

By JAIME VERGARA  
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara is a resident of Saipan teaching at the Shenyang Aerospace University in China. His email is pinoypanda2031@aol.com.



the flammable material in the refinery but also of its proximity to the controversial Daya Bay Nuclear plant situated close to the urban center of Hong Kong.

We now know that 40 hours of solar energy reaching the Earth is enough to power the planet's current annual power requirement. The energy is free and the legal hassles on photovoltaic catchment licenses are easily a walk in the park, or a drive through in unpopulated wide-open spaces. The technology is available at a cost at par with coal, gas, and oil-fired power generation. So why are we not doing it? Like any addiction, use of oil is like our sugar consumption that is not easy to curtail. Production structures in place around the world that harness fossil fuel, and the financial instruments that sustain it, holds lobby power that protect their turf as they define our economic growth.

Popular wisdom is still wary on why we would want a radical and rapid change. We are still in denial on the extent of human participation in the incidence of climate change presently experienced around the planet, no small thanks to oil money for distorting the science to feed our denials.

"Those who walk in darkness have seen a great light," is a wondrous metaphor from the old Prophet Isaiah used during this season. The light source Ra (sun) reigned in Egypt for centuries, and its mythical journey of a nightly trip into the nether lands to emerge again in the light of dawn, influenced the theme of liberation in the Torah and the resurrected image of the Christian faith. The Aegean experience of the clear blue sea where depth is seen from great distance adds to the European metaphor of lucidity and enlightenment.

The big lie is the inescapability of polluting the Earth's atmosphere, and we would rather trigger Armageddon over oilfields than move away with determination. But individuals can raise their canes, and their voices, to demand that our communal resources be used to avert a natural catastrophe already at our doorsteps. Or, more quietly, like my brother's house in Ewa Beach, and that of my classmate in Oakland, CA, their roof just went photovoltaic! Self-interest got enlightened.

The tropical sugar palm tree in the tropics is also said to be a bio-fuel that traps sunshine into ethanol. So let's go solar! May you see the light this Christmas!



**EDITORIAL POLICY**

snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via

Gi Besperan Noche Buena

**A**gupa` gi bespiran Noche Buena (Christmas Eve) ta pre-para hit para ta konduse halom finatton i Niño Jesus gi Misan Gayu. Ma`gas na selebrasion tradision relihion natibu. Yangin un` komprende i taihinekog na fuetsaña pues un` soda` ginefsagamu.

U fattu gi gima`ta kumu mañgatoliku. Baba pettan miyu ya in` keni` halom gi hilu` machuchuda` na minagof ginen korason miyu pot finatoña. Espesiat este na ha`ane para todus piot ayu i hagas man-mamaisen para u fan ginachuñge gi halom katma yan pagyu.

Un` siente matulaikan mañamu ni binalutan dispues bittun pinasensia yan yine`ase para i man-namase`. U tunas yan fitme kareramu gi echoñgñaña. Pot man-tautau hit na ti u fagpu` problema-ta. Lau guiya este na chalan i mas yanu sa` mikonfiansa yan esperansa sensiamu.

Ayu na sunidon Noche Buena i “Tafan Magof Todus” parehu namagof yan na`pinite na guaha`nai ha soyu` misin lago`ta. Piot ayu na patte i ilelegña, “Jesus Yuus mame, gi nuebu na sakan, gai ase` nu hame, apatta i dañu, nae` nu i deskansu i mangaige `sta gi naftan, yan ayu seha kassu matai na sakan”. Felis Noche Buena!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Where is the leadership?

This letter is addressed to all three senators from Saipan, namely Sens. Ralph Dlg. Torres, Ray Yumul and Pete P. Reyes. Senators, I submitted a copy of the letter along with a copy of the petition signed by residents of Kagman III and Kagman IV to the offices of the Senate President, the Speaker of the House of Representative, the Governor, and DPL with regards to our demand for DPL to require the winning bidders of three public lands with beachfront properties to have public contribution. I, and the petitioners and residents of Kagman, are wondering why didn't anyone of you say anything or act to assist the affected residents of their plea for better roadways in their villages? It shows what type of leadership our voters are getting from the no-comment, no-action, no-promises, no-concerns, no-nothing senators! We do not see any leader standing up for the residents and voters of Kagman III and Kagman IV.

If I recall, all three senators are voted islandwide on Saipan, to include the voters of Kagman villages. I hope and pray that you do not ignore our plea or else we will use our voting rights to get rid of you out of your offices. I know that politicians only listen to the threat of losing their power. As voters, we will use the power of the vote!

To the residents of Kagman III and Kagman IV and other residents of Saipan, please do not give up on your pleas to get better roads in our villages. If our leaders do not listen to this letter and previous letters and petitions, the last resort is for us residents to gather and march up to Capital Hill and let our frustrations be heard—the most democratic way for the politicians to listen to us!

Merry Christmas and let's hope that our leaders present us the good news of paving our roads once and for all.

**Vicente M. Sablan and petitioners**  
*Kagman III & Kagman IV, Saipan*

**INTERPRETER**  
*From Page 10*

to see the hilarity. Here was pomp defeated by circumstance. It could only have been funnier if smoking underpants were somehow involved.

And I suspect that Mr. Mandela himself might have enjoyed the moment. It's funny, but all great men (and women) seem to have one thing in common—a sense of humor. For the benefit of my conservative pals, I will note that Ronald Reagan had a great one, and Winston Churchill possessed an extraordinary wit.

As another example, Mahatma Gandhi actually said: “If I had no sense of humor, I would long ago have committed suicide.”

Another thought that tends to mitigate the offense of the faux interpreter: This sort of thing happens all the time in the more humble world. Many people wave their arms around and convey gibberish, and not just for the deaf. I have been accused of this myself.

For my money, the main offender is Rush Limbaugh, a gasbag taller than Mt. Olympus. Recently, he asked himself the traditional question, “Is the pope a Catholic?” and decided that no, he wasn't, he was a Marxist. This is world-class gibberish—a giant slalom that avoided all obstacles such as facts and reality. Mr. Limbaugh may not have made ridiculous empty gestures as he spoke into the hateophone, but it is very likely his cheeks oscillated.

Sometimes it takes a hoax to wave away our human pretensions, for in the end—as was long ago written—all is vanity.

Gi señgsoñ natibu

Mesñgon i natibu gi todú klasen mattiru yan mattiempu. Anog minesñgonña desde tiempón antigun `nai si guelu yan guela mapañot todú pinadesen minamahlau yan sa`pet. Gi halom pagyun mattiru ha suñgun todus pot famaguon natibu.

Bintahan poble mau`udai gi magof na sensian agradesimientu gi Saina pot todú bendisio. Ti un` chathinassu agupa` sa` hagas payun hau man-aligau mantension familia. Hagas malulog yan kreansa hau fitme desde pinatgonmu. Todú siña un` petsige maseha matompu` hau gi halom sabanetan tituka`.

Un` sumen poble na guma` `nai malulogyu`. Poresu na hu komprende haf` pineble, inadache gi dididi` na suette, inanae` felisitation, inagoflie` yan fitme na respetu gi membron familia siha. Ta teñguañg dispues bendision nana yan tata kumu fitme na pisu yan halige gi karera-ta.

Mampos ha gogomgum korasonhu i magof na matan tautau-ta gi halom chinatsaga. Tafan man-gagau mas bendision-ta gi finatton i Niño Jesus agupa` na ha`ane.

Estrañgheru Na Lugat

Hu chage Noche Buena gi chagu` na hospitat entalu` Honolulu, San Diego yan Los Angeles. Mamokatyu` gi hatdin todú tres lugat sustu, haspog hinasoghu chathinassu lau sige manayuyot namaisa. Mampos inkabukau hinasoghu.

Ayu konsueluhu i metgot na inañguhog-hu gi fuetsan bendision i Niño Jesus. Ayu `nai hu soda` ginefsagag-hu `nai enteru asuntog-hu pot malañgon i lahihi hu pega gi disposisioña.

Ha preparayu` para maseha haf` na disposision u fattu. Ha funas chinatsagag-hu ya ha sediyu` chumaleg ñaihion gi sumen barañka na halom tanu` sustu. Guiya gachoñghu desde ayu na pueñge esta pa`gu na tiempu. Tat parehuña magahet Noche Buena gi islan O`Perlas iya Pasifiku.

Hinalom 2014 na sakan

Mientras tantos, sige ta ilau ñaihion i rilos Año Nuevo. Siñaha` sustun ñaihion hau haf` mohon mamamaila` gi nuebu na sakan. I finatto yan hinanau ha`ane kulan asut lañget gi hilu` mapagahes—tatnai matulaika kulotña—kase tabla gi halom parehu fache` miserapble.

Ya monana i eleksion gobietnu gi 2014. Este na eleksion u konduse halom dinisehan publiku gi haf` satton dinisehaña. Hu

A peek inside Santa's gift bag

**W**ASHINGTON—In the spirit of goodwill to others, even if they are politicians, here are some gift suggestions culled from the catalogues.

For Ted Cruz, the Texas tea partying maverick senator who helped orchestrate the government shutdown for which he hasn't yet given us an explanation, we suggest “Magic Morsels” from Fairytale Brownies. We would perhaps add an ingredient from the 1960s, just to see if he is human.

For John Boehner, the House speaker from Ohio who is now on the tea party's naughty list for backing the budget compromise even though he spent the last two years bucking his own establishment Republicans, we suggest Dean and Deluca's sweet “Coal Stocking Stuffer.” Dean and Deluca notes: “It's the nicest stocking stuffer possible for those who deserve a lump or two.”

Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius, who “presided over” the disastrous rollout of the Affordable Care Act, to use one of the nice names for it, might find a “voice clarifying amplifier” from Hammacher Schlemmer useful. It is a digital earpiece that amplifies human speech frequencies above background noise so that spoken words are clearly audible. Perhaps the next time peons tell her a computer program is not ready for prime time, she'll hear.

House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., who ran a tight ship when she was speaker, should receive a “fashionista Christmas tree,” a prelit 5-foot (just her size) tree designed like a dressmaker's dress form also from Hammacher Schlemmer. Pelosi always looks so well put together you forget the Republicans ignore everything she says.

We think President Obama would enjoy the new Play it Again Polar Bear from Gump's in San Francisco. You ask the bear to play a song, any one of 12 Christmas carols, and he does it. Just like Obama tries to mollify whoever he is meeting with at any given moment.

Sen. Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., the beleaguered Senate Republican leader, might find under his tree a “teepee to call your own.” The Land of Nod catalogue notes that this teepee is “the perfect home away from home while trailblazing the playroom frontier,” which of course is Congress. Poor McConnell just keeps bashing Obamacare and he still can't win friends and influence people.

New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie, whose brash style (he hopes)

**By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.**  
Special to the Saipan Tribune

*John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.*



sesiente fitme na dañkulu na tinilaika para umasusede. Lau i tinilaika siempre ha esgaihion halom dispasiu yan areglau na hinanau pot primet biahe.

I kabayerus ni dumiskuida siha onru ni inentregan publiku, dimallas. Yangin unna` lastima gi diskuidu pues ti listu i publiku fumama ta`lu na`anmu na biahe. Bintahumu gaige gi para un` famokat ta`lu apaga` pot apaga` yan i tautau siha ni un` dis-attende.

Otru Asuntu

Na` triste hinanau familia ginen tano`ta pot appenas (taya`) apottunadat guine para famaguon niha. Man-daña gi katkuet estadu para u fan ma-ayuda i nuebu na finatto ginen Marianas. Gi ha`anen Noche Buena man-daña gi fina` gupot marenueba manginen manu siha.

Sige mañganta sunidon Noche Buena pot para umasiente ayu i manñge` na selebrasion i Niño Jesus guine gi paraisun tautau isla. Siña ha` matulaika lugat niha lau ti matulaika sustansian natibu achog chagu` ni mangaige. Felis Noche Buena!

■■■

Desde taya` fondu gi kahan publiku, kantida na dibin gobietnu gi CUC, ma-utut apas man-ritirau, kahulu` gaston hinemlu`, edukasion, guaguan kandet, taya` cho`chu` yan otru siha obligasion mina` makat na tiru i 2014 na sakan. Lamayot patte na dañkulu este siha na problema gaige gi diskuidon man-ma-elihe na offisiat publiku.

Mafa` guinaifen atgidun i asuntu siha estake man-pinalo`pu gi halom aplacha` na fache` diskuidon niha mismu. I mas umestot-bayu` i mañan “no siakassu” gi miserapble na pinadesen publiku pot diskuidun niha. Bes enkuando, pega gi un` banda ya ta selebra i gipot yan sustansian Noche Buena.

**By ANN MCFEATTERS**  
McClatchy-Tribune News Service

*Ann McFeatters has covered the White House and national politics since 1986. Readers may send her email at amcfatters@nationalpress.com.*



will propel him to the White House in 2016, shoots from the hip so often he should have an Orvis denim long-sleeved shooter shirt which will make everyone think of Theodore Roosevelt, and not just because of girth.

Michelle Obama, the near perfect first lady, ordinarily would get a vegetable-of-the-month club subscription. But she's probably tired of that, so we are suggesting a Meatsplosion, a Big Box of Deli Meat from Zingerman's. For only \$200 she'll receive pastrami, corned beef, sausage, liverwurst, applewood smoked bacon, pork spread, and salami. Yum-o.

Sen. Marco Rubio, R-Fla., who would like to be the first Hispanic president and used to be for immigration before he was against it, really should have an iPhone owner's robotic avatar from Hammacher. It reflects an owner's facial features and personality traits. “You can customize its response in your own voice to match your personality such as “stop that!” or “wait a sec, bub.”

Sen. Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., is best known for trampling anyone who stands between him and a TV camera and refusing to step aside. His aides might consider the runaway alarm clock from Hammacher. Put on Schumer's lectern, it makes a “mischievous dash when its alarm sounds” and can survive a jump from a three-foot stand after which it scampers in an erratic path.” TV crews would love it.

You have to admit that Hillary Clinton, who has been first lady, senator and secretary of state, has everything. She's rich. She's smart. Neat clothes. Husband with great hair. Nieman Marcus' big gift this year is an ultimate outdoor entertainment system ranging from \$1.5 million to \$2.6 million. What a perfect way to make a presidential announcement!






Happy holidays, pols. Isn't it nice to know we're thinking of you?



Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

# The Weather

## 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				
Mostly cloudy and breezy with isolated showers. East winds 20 to 25 mph.	Mostly cloudy and breezy with isolated showers. East winds 20 to 25 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲86° ▼76°	▲86° ▼76°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°

### Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Mostly Cloudy	▲86 ▼76
Palau	Mostly Cloudy	▲86 ▼76
Yap	Mostly Cloudy	▲87 ▼76
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	▲86 ▼77
Pohnpei	Mostly Cloudy	▲86 ▼77
Kosrae	Partly Cloudy	▲86 ▼78
Majuro	Mostly Cloudy	▲87 ▼77

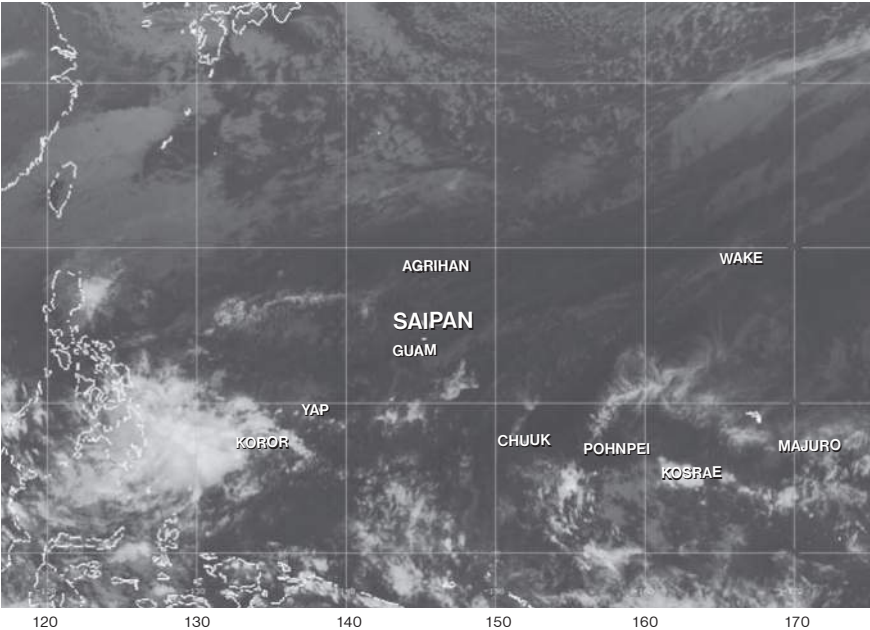
### Around The Globe

Auckland	Cloudy	▲73 ▼67
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	▲40 ▼18
Hong Kong	Sunny	▲65 ▼53
Honolulu	Showers	▲80 ▼69
London	Rain	▲49 ▼42
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲74 ▼49
Manila	Partly Cloudy	▲87 ▼78
Melbourne	Sunny	▲75 ▼53
Miami	Thundershowers	▲84 ▼69
New York	Rain	▲56 ▼32
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲50 ▼38
Paris	Rain	▲51 ▼46
Pusan	Sunny	▲50 ▼39
Rome	Mostly Sunny	▲59 ▼50
Salem	Rain	▲49 ▼35
San Francisco	Sunny	▲65 ▼46
Seoul	Sunny	▲38 ▼23
Tokyo	Sunny	▲51 ▼34
Washington, DC	Rain	▲62 ▼36

### Tides

Saipan Harbor			
5:36 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.3 Feet
12:31 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet
7:10 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.9 Feet
11:54 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.4 Feet

### Yesterday's Satellite Image



### PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, MONDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2013

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A cold front extends southwestward from northeast of Minami Tori Shima through 25N160E to 23N154E, then continues as a shear line to beyond 130E at 19N. Cloudiness and rain are seen along and northwest of this boundary to beyond 25N. Convergent trade winds are producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms over Koror between 4N and 9N from 130E to 137E. A trade-wind convergence zone is forming between 3N and 6N from 180 westward to 161E. Scattered showers are found over Kosrae, south of Kwajelein and south of Majuro between 3N and 5N.

### Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:40 AM	5:54 PM
Wednesday	6:40 AM	5:54 PM
Thursday	6:41 AM	5:54 PM
Friday	6:41 AM	5:55 PM
Saturday	6:41 AM	5:55 PM

### Moonrise/Moonset

Today	11:27 PM	11:07 AM
Wednesday	11:46 AM	5:37 AM
Thursday	12:16 AM	12:26 PM
Friday	1:07 AM	1:09 PM
Saturday	2:01 AM	1:56 PM

## GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

- PICTURES**
  - ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
  - BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
  - BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
  - SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
  - TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.
- ANNOUNCEMENTS**
  - COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.  
■ CAMPUS BULLETIN Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

### REQUIREMENTS

- For pictures:**
- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
  - Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
  - Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
  - Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
  - For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.
- For announcements:**
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

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■ Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF DECEMBER 21, 2013

DEPARTURES	ARRIVALS
<b>SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)</b> UA5070 4:15am 5:05am Daily UA5068 8:40am 9:30am Daily UA5039 1:35pm 3:10pm 1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota  UA5038 2:20pm 3:10pm 2, 3, 6 UA5078 6:05pm 6:55pm Daily UA5072 9:50pm 10:40pm Daily	<b>GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN</b> UA5069 2:45am 3:35am Daily UA5071 7:15am 8:05am Daily UA5039 12:10pm 1:00pm 1, 4, 5, 7 UA5038 12:10pm 1:50pm 2, 3, 6 via Rota  UA5077 4:45pm 5:35pm Daily UA5079 8:30pm 9:20pm Daily
<b>SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)</b> UA5039 1:35pm 2:10pm 1, 4, 5, 7	<b>GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)</b> UA5038 12:10pm 12:45pm 2, 3, 6
<b>ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)</b> UA5039 2:40pm 3:10pm 1, 4, 5, 7	<b>ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN</b> UA5038 1:15pm 1:50pm 2, 3, 6
<b>SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)</b> OZ119 4:00am 6:40am Daily	<b>OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN</b> OZ120 9:50pm 2:20am+1 Daily
<b>SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)</b> DL287 6:05am 8:40am 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 DL297 4:30pm 7:20pm Daily	<b>NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN</b> DL298 10:25am 3:00pm Daily DL288 8:55pm 1:30am+1 1, 3, 4, 5, 7
<b>SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)</b> OZ608 3:10am 6:20am 1, 4, 5, 7	<b>BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN</b> OZ607 9:00pm 1:50am+1 3, 4, 6, 7
<b>SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)</b> OZ606 2:10am 6:00am 1 DZ102 2:20am 5:50am 3 OZ606 2:40am 6:30am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 OZ6063 3:30am 7:20am 4, 7 DZ104 2:00pm 5:30pm 6 OZ604 3:20pm 7:10pm Daily	<b>SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN</b> DZ101 8:30am 2:00pm 3 OZ603 9:00am 2:20pm Daily DZ103 7:30pm 1:00am+1 6 OZ605 7:40pm 1:00am+1 7 OZ605 8:10pm 1:30am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 OZ6053 9:10pm 2:30am+1 3, 6
<b>SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)</b> 3U8648 6:10am 8:40am 1, 4, 5, 7	<b>SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN</b> 3U8647 10:40pm 5:00am+1 3, 4, 6, 7
<b>SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)</b> MU764 4:10am 8:00am 1, 5	<b>BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN</b> MU763 7:55pm 3:10am+1 4, 7
<b>SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)</b> 3U8646 4:20am 7:30am 2, 6	<b>GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN</b> 3U8645 7:40pm 3:00am+1 1, 5
<b>SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)</b> OZ606/701 2:10am 11:15am 1 via ICN OZ606/701 2:40am 11:15am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN  UA5070/191 4:15am 9:05am 3, 6 via GUM DL287/473 6:05am 10:30pm 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 via NRT  UA5068/PR111 8:40am 4:45pm 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM  UA5039/183 1:35pm 9:30pm 5 via Guam UA5039/183 1:35pm 9:50pm 1, 4, 7 via Guam  UA5038/183 2:20pm 9:30pm 2 via GUM UA5078/183 6:05pm 9:50pm 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM  OZ604/703 3:20pm 11:00pm Daily via ICN	<b>MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN</b> OZ704/603 12:10am 2:20pm Daily PR110/UA5072 7:35am 5:35pm 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM  DL172/288 7:40am 1:30am+1 1, 3, 4, 5, 7 via NRT  UA190/5079 10:00am 5:35pm 3, 6 via GUM OZ702/605 12:30pm 1:00am+1 7 via ICN OZ702/605 12:30pm 1:30am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN  UA184/5071 10:55pm 8:05am+1 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM  UA184/5071 11:59pm 8:05am+1 2, 5 via GUM
<b>SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)</b> OZ606/721 2:10am 11:50am 1 via ICN OZ606/721 2:40am 11:50am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN  UA5068/179 8:40am 10:35pm 1, 5 via GUM UA5038/179 2:20pm 10:35pm 3, 6 via GUM OZ604/749 3:20pm 11:00pm Daily via ICN	<b>HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN</b> OZ746/603 12:30am 2:20pm Daily via ICN OZ722/605 1:15pm 1:00am+1 7 via ICN OZ724/605 1:50pm 1:30am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN  UA180/5071 11:10pm 8:05am+1 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air; D: Dynamic Airways.

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

## FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
<b>Guam-Rota</b>				FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
<b>Rota-Saipan</b>				FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
<b>Guam-Rota</b>				FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
<b>Rota-Saipan</b>							
FRE 1750	17:50	18:20	Daily	<b>Tinian-Saipan</b>			
<b>Saipan-Rota</b>				FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
<b>Rota-Guam</b>				FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
<b>Saipan-Rota</b>				FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
<b>Rota-Guam</b>				FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 400				FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
<b>Saipan-Tinian</b>				FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily				
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily				



## NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- \*11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at [www.nmicrimestoppers.com](http://www.nmicrimestoppers.com)



# WIA provides priority of service to CNMI veterans

By **NAOMI C.S. TAISAKAN**  
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

The Workforce Investment Agency has blessed the life of my family in a way that I thought only the military could. I was released from active duty Army after a close call in Iraq two weeks before my 21st birthday. I was given a second chance at life, and now WIA has given me hope. I knew that I needed to get on my feet quick, and WIA was my stepping stone to get there. I am now currently employed at Office of the Secretary of Finance and have broadened my knowledge of public

## Guam Guard soldiers arrive on US soil

The second wave of soldiers, assigned to the 1-294<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, Guam Army National Guard, has arrived in Camp Shelby, MS, to begin the demobilization process.

An additional 241 soldiers arrived safely in Camp Shelby, MS, Sunday night, bringing the total to 342.

"This is obviously great news! Although they are not yet on Guam, they are out of harm's way. And that is a relief for all of us—an early Christmas gift for their families, for the Guard and for our Island community," said Maj. Gen. Benny M. Paulino, The Adjutant General for the Guam National Guard. "We're halfway there and continue to pray for safe travels of our remaining soldiers."

## Blanco passes NCLEX on first try

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**  
moneth\_deposa@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

A licensed practical nurse working at the Commonwealth Health Center is a recent addition to the roster of successful NCLEX passers on island.

Claire Blanco got an early Christmas present after receiving the good news, admitting that the exam was difficult.

"I am very happy and felt relieved because it was a difficult test. All my hard work and sacrifices paid off!" she told *Saipan Tribune*.

NCLEX, or the National Council Licensure Examination, is an examination for the licensing of nurses in the United States. There are two types, the NCLEX-RN and NCLEX-PN. After graduation from a school of nursing, one takes the NCLEX exam to receive his or her nursing license.

Blanco, 30, is originally from the province of Liaoning, Shenyang City in China. She is the wife of Zoning Board chair Diego Blanco.

She completed her LPN courses at Emmanuel College in August 2009 and passed the examination with flying colors just a year after.

Blanco also studied at Loyola University for her RN courses and successfully completed the courses in September last year.

relations and government operations. I have acquired the experience through the guidance of senior employees here at Finance, learned how to interact as a professional employee, and work with sister agencies. This has been a rollercoaster of thrill and lessons learned.

Yes, I am a veteran, and yes I willingly served our country at 17. With that said, it is one of the most heartfelt feelings in the world to know that our country is giving back to the troops through services such as WIA. The military experience can never be compared to that of any other world, but WIA has been

The battalion's close to 600 soldiers deployed to Afghanistan early this year in support of Operation Enduring Freedom-Afghanistan.

The first wave of 101 soldiers arrived on Saturday morning (Guam time).

"As we continue to welcome home our battalion soldiers, we must remember that we still have 31 airmen from the Guam Air National Guard's 254<sup>th</sup> Security Forces Squadron and four soldiers from the Guam Army National Guard's 1990<sup>th</sup> Contingency Contracting Team deployed during this holiday season in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Please keep them and their families in your prayers," Paulino added. (PR)



Blanco

She then took the NCLEX RN on Dec. 18, 2013, and successfully passed it on her first try. Blanco also studied English at the Northern Marianas College when she first arrived on Saipan back in 2007.

As a child, Blanco dreamt of becoming a registered nurse. When asked what motivated her to pursue this career, she said: "I love helping people. I am happy whenever I help people."

Blanco conveyed her deep appreciation to her husband, Diego, for being supportive during her classes and during preparation for the NCLEX examination.

Claire is the immunization nurse at the Commonwealth Health Corp.'s Division of Public Health where she started working in August 2010.

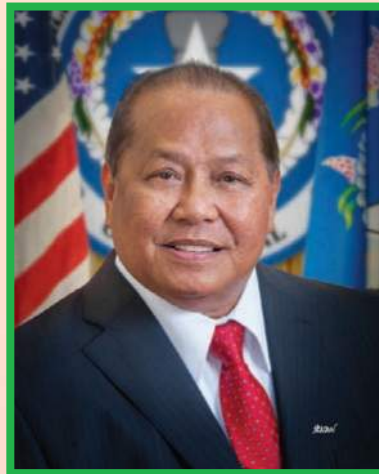
a supreme transitioning tool to get back into the workforce. I am pleased to say that I have met some of the most remarkable and magnificent people through WIA. I learn something new everyday. Thank you WIA from the bottom of my heart for blessing not only myself with employment, but also my Marine veteran husband. We now are able to support our amazing miracle baby boy, and give him a very merry Christmas. A very merry Christmas and happy New Year to the WIA team from my family to yours.

Veterans Priority of Service is provided pursuant to the Jobs for Veterans Act (US PL 107-288) (38 USC 4215) to include the Gold Card Services Initiative for Post 9/11 ERA Veterans.



Naomi C.S. Taisakan currently works at the Office of the Secretary of Finance.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Governor Eloy S. Inos



Lt. Governor Jude U. Hofschneider

*Peace on earth. Goodwill to all mankind.*



This time of the year, we take on the traditions of Christmas that express blessing, selflessness, and hope; when we renew the strong spiritual values that have sustained our heritage throughout the years. It is a time when we embrace the spirit of giving and sharing.

We remember loved ones who are far from us and those we have lost. We remember our brave men and women who continue to defend our freedom. We pay homage to our heroes who have given their lives in the name of ours. It is a special time for us to acknowledge how much we have been blessed by the love of family and the gift of friendship with one another.

As we observe this holiday season and gaze upon the beginning of a new year with renewed spirits, we wish you all the peace and joy of the holiday season. May the good Lord continue to grace us all with an abundance of good tidings.

*From our family to yours, we wish you a blessed Christmas and a New Year filled with prosperity!*

ELOY S. INOS

JUDE U. HOFSCHEIDER



# Christmas floats, spirit occupy streets of Garapan



Students from several schools around the island show their "green outfits" at the Paseo de Marianas on Saturday.

THOMAS A. MANGLONA II

By THOMAS MANGLONA II  
CORRESPONDENT



The float of Green Meadow School.

THOMAS A. MANGLONA II

Seven schools showcased their creativity and Christmas spirit in the Parade of Floats last Saturday, with hundreds of residents and tourists lining the streets of Garapan to watch the short procession that led to the Paseo de Marianas, where a caroling competition followed.



The float of Kagman High School.

THOMAS A. MANGLONA II

Participating schools included San Vicente Elementary, Green Meadow School, Kagman Elementary, Mt. Carmel Elementary, Golden Harvest International School, Kagman High School, and Koblerville Elementary.

"It took us the entire day to prepare this float and several months to come up with the design and decorations," said Abrahama

Amirez, a Kagman High School teacher. "We went with the theme 'Let there be peace, joy, and love this Christmas.'"

Each of the participating schools had to prepare, design, and manufacture their own float using recycled materials only.

For some schools, like the Golden Harvest International School, it was their first time to join the "environmentally

friendly" float competition.

"It took us one month to make out float," said the school's principal, Marilyn Divino. "[For our school], this event is very significant because this is about celebrating the birth of Jesus, which is the true meaning of Christmas. We are also recycling and using old materials, we are saving the Earth."

One Saipan resident who attended the event described the floats as "fantastic." "I love all the creativity and spirit events like these brings," she added.

MINA representatives judged the floats.

"We'll have to wait for the results to see who ultimately was the best and most creative," said Becky Furey, one of the judges. "All the natural materials and recycled materials they used really brought out the Christmas spirit in a unique way."

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### Transfer station, Marpi landfill closed on Dec. 25

In observance of Christmas Day, Wednesday, Dec. 25, 2013, the Lower Base Transfer Station and the Marpi Landfill will be closed all day. Regular schedule will resume on Thursday, Dec. 26, 2013, through Saturday, Dec. 28, 2013, from 7:30am to 11:30am, and 12:30pm to 4pm. Merry Christmas! (PR)

### High surf warning out

The CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management is warning the public of dangerous surf that is expected to last until Wednesday. A high surf advisory is now in effect until 6pm Wednesday. "A long period north swell generated by a large storm east of Japan will continue to arrive for the next several days and maintain high surf along north facing reefs. For these exposures hazardous surf of 8 to 10 feet will continue until Wednesday. Surf is expected to subside below hazardous levels by Thursday. The public and inexperienced mariners are advised to avoid venturing near exposed reefs and beaches, especially those along north facing reefs as rip currents are life threatening. (PR)

You will have great joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at His birth...  
Luke 1:14

*Rejoice!*

*Good tidings and great joy  
this Christmas season.*

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# Schools carol to 'spread Christmas cheer for all to hear'

By THOMAS MANGLONA II  
CORRESPONDENT

After an animated parade through the streets of Garapan, a huge crowd filled the Paseo de Marianas Saturday night to enjoy food, games, and performances from schools in the 12<sup>th</sup> annual Christmas caroling competition.

"I am loving the Christmas program every week," said one Saipan resident who has come to the celebration for three years now. "My kids and I come here every year and enjoy it. We love hearing the kids sing and celebrate the true meaning of Christmas with everyone on Saipan."

Eight schools participated in Saturday's caroling competition, where students must present a 10-minute performance without any adult assistance on stage. Elementary and junior high grade levels performed Christmas songs and two high schools performed an original skit.

Participating schools included Koblerville Elementary, Kagman Elementary, Oleai Elementary, Mt. Carmel Elementary, Green Meadow, and Garapan Elementary. The only two participating high schools that performed a skit are Mt. Carmel High School and Kagman High School.

A panel of four judges determined the winning performances.

"There is a lot of talent and the kids stuck to the theme 'Christmas in the Marianas,'" said judge Frances Sablan.

Tony Joe Nguo, who also served as a judge, said he "enjoyed the performances."

"I think that the kids have a



Oleai Elementary school performs.  
THOMAS A. MANGLONA II



Kagman elementary school students perform their Christmas carols for hundreds of Saipan residents and tourists.

THOMAS A. MANGLONA II

lot of talent and bring their own original ideas to the performances," he added.

Both he and Sablan have served as judges for the past 12 years—since the beginning of the annual Christmas celebrations.

"I was so excited to be on stage," said MCS elementary school student Kiana Propst. Although Propst had a blast performing, she also remembered the true significance of the event. "It is important to be a part of things like this to spread Christmas joy," she added.

The night also featured a costume contest.

The winners of the Christmas tree decorating contest, costume contest, and caroling competition will be announced this Saturday.

Mt. Carmel Elementary students take their turn on the stage.

THOMAS A. MANGLONA II

## BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT



Belated happy birthday to Bryanna Mae C. Camacho! May you be blessed with spirited and highlights in your life forever! With love from Daddy, Mommy, Brandon, Quianny, Leona Ann, and Britney.



Happy 14<sup>th</sup> birthday to Jovohni Daniel Lee Santos! May you always be the awesome son that you are. We love you! Greetings coming out from Mom, Dad, and Aliboom.



*Our family wishes you  
and yours a Christmas rich  
with family love,  
warm with friendship  
and blessed with the joys  
of the holiday season.*



*And our best wishes for a new year  
happy with life's goodness and prosperity.*

***Merry Christmas  
and a Happy New Year.***

*Kilili, Andrea and family*

Paid for by **Kilili** for Congress



# Business

## Weak US card security made Target a juicy target

**NEW YORK (AP)**—The U.S. is the juiciest target for hackers hunting credit card information. And experts say incidents like the recent data theft at Target's stores will get worse before they get better.

That's in part because U.S. credit and debit cards rely on an easy-to-copy magnetic strip on the back of the card, which stores account information using the same technology as cassette tapes.

"We are using 20th century cards against 21st century hackers," says Mallory Duncan, general counsel at the National Retail

Federation. "The thieves have moved on but the cards have not."

In most countries outside the U.S., people carry cards that use digital chips to hold account information. The chip generates a unique code every time it's used. That makes the cards more difficult for criminals to replicate. So difficult that they generally don't bother.

"The U.S. is the top victim location for card counterfeit attacks like this," says Jason Oxman, chief executive of the Electronic Transactions Association.

The breach that exposed the credit card and debit card infor-

mation of as many as 40 million Target customers who swiped their cards between Nov. 27 and Dec. 15 is still under investigation. It's unclear how the breach occurred and what data, exactly, criminals have. Although security experts say no security system is fail-safe, there are several measures stores, banks and credit card companies can take to protect against these attacks.

Companies haven't further enhanced security because it can be expensive. And while global credit and debit card fraud hit a record \$11.27 billion last year, those costs accounted

for just 5.2 cents of every \$100 in transactions, according to the Nilson Report, which tracks global payments.

Another problem: retailers, banks and credit card companies each want someone else to foot most of the bill. Card companies want stores to pay to better protect their internal systems. Stores want card companies to issue more sophisticated cards. Banks want to preserve the profits they get from older processing systems.

Card payment systems work much the way they have for decades. The magnetic strip on

### A big bullseye

*Target is investigating a security breach that began the day before Thanksgiving, involving stolen credit and debit card information of millions of its retail customers.*

#### About the retailer

**Opened** 1962 in Minneapolis

**Online** E-commerce site launched in 1999

**Employees** 361,000 worldwide

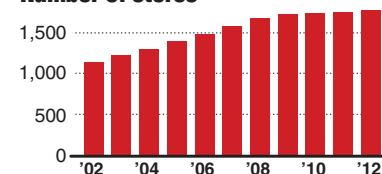
**Gross profit** \$22.73 billion

**Chairman, President, CEO** Gregg Steinhafel

**Popularity** No. 2 discount chain (behind Walmart) in the U.S.

**Stores** 1,797 in 49 U.S. states; 124 in Canada

#### Number of stores



Source: Target Corp., Hoovers, Yahoo Finance  
Graphic: Melina Yingling © 2013 MCT



**Nov. 27**

Criminals gained access to customer information

**Dec. 15**

Target identified breach, resolved the issue

**40 million**

Names, credit, debit card numbers, expiration dates, three-digit security codes stolen

Data can be sold on the black market; used to create counterfeit cards

May the spirit of Christmas fill your hearts  
with love, joy, and appreciation of life.



From the management and staff of



**Tan Holdings**

www.tanholdings.com

the back of a credit or debit card contains the cardholder's name, account number, the card's expiration date and a security code different from the three or four-digit security code printed on the back of most cards.

When the card is swiped at a store, an electronic conversation is begun between two banks. The store's bank, which pays the store right away for the item the customer bought, needs to make sure the customer's bank approves the transaction and will pay the

store's bank. On average, the conversation takes 1.4 seconds.

During that time the customer's information flows through the network and is recorded, sometimes only briefly, on computers within the system controlled by payment processing companies. Retailers can store card numbers and expiration dates, but they are prohibited from storing more sensitive data such as the security code printed on the backs of cards or other personal identification numbers.

## Apple reaches an agreement to bring iPhones to China Mobile

**BEIJING (AP)**—Apple says it has reached a deal to bring the iPhone to China Mobile, the world's biggest phone carrier.

The deal ends a lengthy courtship and could boost sales of the iPhone in China. The iPhone, once hugely popular in China, has been eclipsed by the rise of lower-priced rival smartphones from Samsung and Chinese companies.

The iPhone 5S and 5C will go on sale in Apple stores and China Mobile stores beginning Friday, Jan. 17. China Mobile customers can register for phones starting Wednesday.

The companies didn't announce pricing or the terms of the agreement.

The iPhone, while popular around the world, has faced tough competition in recent years from cheaper smartphones running Google's Android software. Collectively, Android phones far outsell Apple's iPhone.

Analysts speculate that Apple could sell another 10 million to 40 million more phones if it reached a deal with China Mobile.

Apple CEO Tim Cook told the official Xinhua News Agency in January that he expects China to

surpass the United States as its biggest market. Some 50 million iPhones have been sold in China in the past 2 1/2 years, according to analyst estimates.

China Mobile, which is owned by the Chinese government, has more than 750 million mobile accounts. However, a survey by Bernstein Research said some China Mobile consumers use smaller carriers for data service. Apple already has agreements with China Telecom Ltd. and China Unicom Ltd., which have about 455 million mobile accounts.

With China Mobile, Apple gains access to a bigger, more robust network. The network has faster data speeds and suffers fewer complaints about dropped calls than those of two smaller state-owned rivals.

China Mobile wants to have the world's largest 4G network, and the new iPhones might help it win over customers. The company received approval to start operating the faster network earlier this month and plans to have 4G services available in 16 cities by the end of 2013. It aims to provide coverage for 340 cities by the end of 2014.



# Nation

## Health plan sticker shock ahead

**CHICAGO (AP)**—As a key enrollment deadline hits Monday, many people without health insurance have been sizing up policies on the new government health care marketplace and making what seems like a logical choice: They're picking the cheapest one.

Increasingly, experts in health insurance are becoming concerned that many of these first-time buyers will be in for a shock when they get medical care next year and discover they're on the hook for most of the initial cost.

The prospect of sticker shock after Jan. 1, when those who sign up for policies now can begin getting coverage, is seen as a looming problem for a new national system that has been

plagued by trouble since the new marketplaces went online in the states in October.

For those without insurance—about 15 percent of the population—“the lesson is it's important to understand the total cost of ownership of a plan,” said Matt Eyles, a vice president of Avalere Health, a market analysis firm. “You just don't want to look only at the premium.”

Counselors who have been helping people choose policies say many are focused only on the upfront cost, not what the insurance companies agree to pay.

“I am so deeply clueless about all of this,” acknowledged one new buyer, Adrienne Matzen, 29, an actor in Chicago who's mostly been without insurance

since she turned 21. Though she needs regular care for asthma and a thyroid condition, she says she's looking for a low monthly premium because she makes less than \$20,000 a year.

Hospitals are worried that those who rack up uncovered medical bills next year won't be able to pay them, perpetuating one of the problems the new health care system is supposed to solve.

The new federal and state health insurance exchanges offer policies ranked as bronze, silver, gold and platinum. The bronze options have the lowest monthly premiums but high deductibles—the amount the policyholder must pay before the insurer picks up any of the cost of medical care.



### WINTER IS HERE

This Dec. 21, 2013 photo shows Christmas tree lights illuminating a yard as the snow falls late Saturday night Dec. 21, 2013, in Salina, Kan. The first full day of winter brought a wild mix of weather across the U.S. on Sunday: ice and high wind in the Great Lakes and New England areas, flooding in the South, snow in the Midwest and record-shattering temperatures in the 60s and 70s along the mid-Atlantic. Snow and ice knocked out power to 440,000 homes and businesses in Michigan, upstate New York and northern New England, and also left more than 475,000 people without electricity in eastern Canada. It could be days before the lights are back on everywhere.

## California city helps soldier replace stolen gifts

**LODI, Calif. (AP)**—Army Cpl. Chris Petrossian was in Afghanistan when his frightened wife called to say robbers stole the thousands of dollars' worth of Christmas gifts he had ordered online and shipped to his Northern California home.

The corporal now on leave from his third tour of duty wanted to surprise his wife and two daughters with gifts like an iPad and digital cam-

era. Thanks to fellow residents of Lodi, he will be able to give his family the Christmas he envisioned while he was away, KCRA-TV in Sacramento reported Sunday.

“After being gone that long, you want to have a good Christmas and good homecoming,” said the 27-year-old Petrossian, who returned from a 17-month deployment on Wednesday. “It was all

sitting on the desk and they just ripped open all the packages and helped themselves to whatever they wanted, which was everything.”

He told the television station that he has been able to replace about three-quarters of the stolen gifts with the community's donations, including money collected by local police and firefighters. The city is about 35 miles south of Sacramento.

## NYPD: Man, 3-year-old son dead in building fall

**NEW YORK (AP)**—A man and his 3-year-old son plummeted to their deaths from a Manhattan apartment building, police said Sunday as they investigated what led to the tragedy.

Authorities said they received an emergency call reporting two jumpers from the 52-floor building on the Upper West Side

around noon. Officers responding to the scene found Dmitry Kanarikov, 35, of Brooklyn, and the boy on the rooftops of two separate nearby buildings.

The man was pronounced dead at the scene and his son, Kirill Kanarikov, was pronounced dead at a nearby hospital, police said.

The circumstances of the fall are unclear. Authorities said the father did not live in the building.

Luis Ortiz told the New York Post that he was at the hospital when paramedics rushed the boy there and that they were pumping his chest and working on him.



### Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director



## INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-14-006

### CHALAN KIYA-KANAT TABLA WATERLINE CONNECTION (W12-022)

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Construction of Chalan Kiya-Kanat Tabla Waterline Connection in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The scope-of-work consists of installation of new six (6) inch ductile iron distribution main connecting the Kanat Tabla booster pump through the existing Chalan Kiya water distribution main line. It also includes replacement and installation of various new valves, and water service lateral connections at designated areas within the Chalan Kiya Village.

**This project is funded by a grant from the United States of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from USEPA.**

CUC requires the Project to be completed in **240 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

The Bid Tender Documents may be picked-up, upon receipt of a non-refundable payment from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check, or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable); at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **December 24, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No. 15, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

**One (1) original and Five (5) copies** must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked “CUC-IFB-14-006, Chalan Kiya-Kanat Tabla Waterline Connection, Saipan” to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on January 14, 2014**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A **Payment Bond** of one hundred (100%) percent and a **Performance Bond** of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on December 27, 2013** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., Manager, CUC Procurement & Supply Division via email [manny.sablan@cucgov.org](mailto:manny.sablan@cucgov.org) with a copy to Christi Lazaro, Engineer, CUC Water-Wastewater Division via email [christi.lazaro@cucgov.org](mailto:christi.lazaro@cucgov.org) and Ms. Marcela Tenorio, Administrative Support Assistant, CUC Procurement & Supply Division via email [marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org](mailto:marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org).

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

**ALAN W. FLETCHER**  
Executive Director



### Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director



## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CUC-RFP-14-003

### Completion of Installation of a New 500,000 Gal. Diesel Fuel Tank at Power Plant No.1, Saipan

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals (Request for Proposals – RFP) from qualified and experienced Tank erection / installation firms for correction of existing defects, assembly, installation and commissioning a new Above Ground Oil Storage Tank (AST), as per the specifications contained in the proposal document and monitored through a construction management firm and a third party quality control firm, contracted by CUC. The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) and the United States District Court entered into a Stipulated Order Number Two (SO No. 2) for Preliminary Injunctive Relief under Civil Case No. CV 08-0051 (Section 1.1). The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) filed the civil action seeking injunctive relief under the Clean Water Act (CWA), and the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This work shall satisfy the requirement in Section IV, Oil Spill Prevention and Preparedness, Paragraphs # 28 Tank System Integrity Testing Workplan and Implementation for CUC Power plants 1 and 2 and Integrity Inspection Program.

The Saipan Power plant is located in the Lower Base Industrial Area near the Saipan Seaport, in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI). The foundation, tank and accessories have been designed by a US based company and the tank assembly kit was supplied to Saipan port by the same company, United Industries Group, CA (UIG) for installation by a local contractor. The previous construction contractor has been terminated due to default and performance issues while the metal work and welding work was in progress. The project is currently in a partially finished state.

The purpose of this RFP is to ensure the CUC is to ensure that the new tank is built to the codes and standards to which it was originally designed, including the corrections necessary, details of which have been described in the RFP and meets the stringent tests and inspections noted therein. Upon being awarded the contract and receiving the Notice to Proceed (NTP), the contractor will complete the correction as provided in the RFP. Following schedules shall be noted by all vendors:

- Contract Award - **February 6, 2014**
- Notice to proceed / site mobilization - **February 13, 2014**
- Tank completion - **July 8, 2014**

The Scope-of-Work and Proposal package will be emailed, upon request, to all interested proposers, by the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, during working days, from 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM local time, until **December 18, 2013**.

A **mandatory** Pre-Proposal Conference followed by a site visit is scheduled at the Saipan CUC Power Plant 1, administration building on **December 18, 2013 at 10:00 AM**, to ensure that the contractors are fully aware of the work involved and familiarize with the site conditions. All proposers are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the proposers due to lack of information or understanding of the plant site conditions in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or performance of work under the contract.

**One (1) Original and Six (6) hard copies** must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked “CUC-RFP-14-003 - REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL - Completion of Installation of a New 500,000 Gal. Diesel Fuel Tank at Power Plant No.1, Saipan” to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **December 31, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

**Upon award of the contract** the Offeror is required to submit a copy of his CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page – <http://www.dol.gov/esa/minwage/cnmi/cnmi.htm>. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

A Proposal Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total proposal price must accompany the proposal. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A **Payment Bond** of one hundred (100%) percent and a **Performance Bond** of one hundred (100%) percent of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful proposer. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers questions, concerns and qualification should be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Proposers are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code, with the proposal.

All inquiries must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00am (ChST) on December 20, 2013**, to Mr. Manny B. Sablan, Jr., Purchasing Officer via email [manny.sablan@cucgov.org](mailto:manny.sablan@cucgov.org) and Petroleum and Compliance Manager, Mr. Andrew Longworth at [andrew.longworth@cucgov.org](mailto:andrew.longworth@cucgov.org).

Selection procedure shall be in full compliance with CUC Procurement Regulations. CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfection in the proposal in the interest of the government.

**CHARLES WARREN**  
Acting Executive Director



World

WORLD BRIEFS

**UN urges more aid for Philippine typhoon recovery**  
MANILA, Philippines (AP)—U.N. Secretary General Ban Ki-moon urged the international community Sunday to ramp up aid for the Philippines’ typhoon reconstruction, saying “we must not allow this to be another forgotten crisis.” Ban met with key ambassadors stationed in Manila at the end of his three-day visit and urged donor countries to pro-

vide more aid in the aftermath of Typhoon Haiyan, which hit the central Philippines on Nov. 8, killing at least 6,100 people and leaving nearly 1,800 others missing. Entire villages were flattened by Haiyan’s ferocious winds and the tsunami-like storm surge that damaged or swept away more than a million homes and injured 27,000 people.

**Rebels hold key oil capital in South Sudan**  
KAMPALA, Uganda (AP)—South Sudan’s central government lost control of the capital

of a key oil-producing state Sunday, the military said, as renegade forces loyal to a former deputy president seized more territory in fighting that has raised fears of full-blown civil war in the world’s newest country. Bentiu, the capital of oil-rich Unity state, is now controlled by a military commander loyal to former Vice President Riek Machar, said Col. Philip Aguer, the South Sudanese military spokesman. “Bentiu is in the hands of a commander who has declared support for Machar,” he said. “Bentiu is not in our hands.”

**Khodorkovsky will work to free political inmates**  
BERLIN (AP)—Mikhail Khodorkovsky, the Russian oligarch who crossed President Vladimir Putin and ended up in jail for a decade, says he plans to devote his life to securing the freedom of the country’s political prisoners. At a packed news conference just two days after his surprise release from a Russian jail, Khodorkovsky said Sunday that he wants to pay back all those who had worked so hard for his own release. But he dismissed any suggestion that he

might take a leading role in Russian politics.

**3 bombs explode in southern Thailand, injuring 27**  
SONGKHLA, Thailand (AP)—Three bombs exploded Sunday in southern Thailand, injuring more than two dozen people in what appeared to be an attack by Islamic insurgents, authorities said. Songkhla’s provincial governor told state-run NBT television that 27 people were hurt, four seriously, in the bombings. Police said a car bomb outside a hotel in Song-

khla caused the most damage. Two other bombs concealed on motorcycles exploded outside two police stations, they said.

**Kiev anti-government protest draws 100,000**  
KIEV, Ukraine (AP)—About 100,000 people rallied in Ukraine’s capital Sunday to demand the ouster of the president and his Cabinet as mass anti-government protests entered their second month. The rallies were sparked by President Viktor Yanukovich’s decision last month to choose ties with Russia over integration with the 28-nation European Union. That deeply angered many Ukrainians, who favor the democratic structures of the West over Russia’s autocratic government. After a violent police crackdown on a peaceful rally, the demonstrators turned against Yanukovich himself and have transformed Kiev into a giant protest encampment.

**Icons of Egypt’s protest movement imprisoned**  
CAIRO (AP)—An Egyptian court handed down prison sentences to three of the country’s most prominent youth activists Sunday in the first use of a controversial new protest law, a harsh warning to the secular groups that supported the military’s ouster of Islamist president Mohammed Morsi but have since grown critical of the army-backed government that replaced him. Ahmed Maher, Ahmed Douma and Mohammed Adel, founders of the April 6 movement, each received three years in prison on charges of holding an illegal rally and assaulting police.

Saipan Shrimp & Broodstock Co., Ltd. is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following position:

**Operations Manager**  
Job duties: The operations manager is responsible in planning and implementation of the overall business direction of the company. Responsible for creating production and marketing plans and making sure these plans are implemented and targets are achieved accordingly.

Job requirements: Minimum 5 years experience in managing shrimp aquaculture business. Must have the technical knowledge on shrimp farming as well as the skills necessary in business management. Must be a graduate of a 4-year degree course related to aquaculture or business management and have proven track record of managing businesses and people. The position also requires being on call 24 hours, 7 days a week. Basic knowledge of electrical, plumbing and mechanical systems also required.

**Electrician**  
Job duties: Pull out, installation, repair and maintenance of water pumps, motor aerators, and other support equipment for aquaculture. Repair and maintenance of electrical installations, building, and other structures. Repair and maintenance of heavy duty generators.

Job requirements: Minimum 4 years experience in electrical and mechanical works. Related engineering degree and previous experience in aquaculture operations is an advantage and preferred. Willing to be on call 24 hours a day. Able to lift up to 75lbs.

**Accountant**  
Job duties: Prepare, examine or analyze accounting record, financial statements or other financial reports to assess accuracy, completeness and conformance to reporting and procedural standards. Report to management regarding the finances of establishments. Establish tables of accounts and design entries to proper accounts. Develop, implement, modify and document record keeping and accounting systems. Compute taxes owed and prepare tax returns ensuring compliance with payment, reporting and other tax requirements.

Job requirements: Accounting graduate or 4 years bachelor degree in accounting. Minimum 5 years experience in accounting. Well-versed in Peachtree accounting or any other accounting software. Must be skilled in use of MS Excel, Word and PowerPoint. Strong communication and interpersonal skills, team player and with positive attitude.

**Aquaculture Farmer**  
Job duties: Feeding and monitoring of live aquatic animals, cleaning of tanks, weighing of feeds, harvesting and packing, nighttime monitoring, grounds maintenance and other related jobs.

Job requirements: High school graduate, in good physical and health condition, able to lift up to 60lbs., knowledge of basic mathematical calculations. Must be willing to work night shifts, be a team player and with good working attitude.

**Sales Representative**  
Job duties: Market development, delivery, collection and other customer relations duty. Formulations of sales and marketing strategies. Market survey and analysis and competitor benchmarking.

Job requirements: Minimum experience of 4 years in the seafood retail and wholesale business. Professional driving skills required. Proficient in MS Word and Excel. With proven track record in sales specifically in market development. With excellent oral and written communication skills.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at the Saipan Shrimp & Broodstock Co., Ltd. Human Resources Office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Monday, January 06, 2014.

Saipan Shrimp & Broodstock Co., Ltd. is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

**WESTERN SALES TRADING COMPANY**  
has an opening for:

**One (1) Sales Representative**  
**Minimum qualifications:** Associates degree (may be foreign and/or educational equivalent). **Duties:** Sells company’s merchandise to retail stores and outlets. Meets with customers in order to explain and promote the quality and competitive costing of the company’s products. Quotes prices and credit terms for purchase of company’s products. Prepares sales slips or sales contacts and may collect payment from customers. Ensures that customers’ orders are properly filled. Arranges for delivery of products to customers.

**One (1) Building Maintenance Repairer**  
**Minimum Qualifications:** Two years experience as building maintenance repairer. **Duties:** Repairs and maintains the building structures and equipment of the company’s commercial and industrial premises, including such duties as pipe fitting, insulating, welding, machining, carpentry; repairing electrical and mechanical equipment; installing, aligning, and balancing new equipment; and repairing buildings. Performs routine preventive maintenance to ensure that machines continue to run smoothly, building systems operate efficiently, or the physical condition of building does not deteriorate. Inspects, operates, or test machinery or equipment to diagnose machine malfunctions. Assembles, install, or repairs wiring, electrical or electronic components, pipe system, plumbing, machinery, or equipment. Repairs or replaces defective equipment parts, using hand tools and power tools, and reassembles equipment. Records type and cost of maintenance or repair work.

If interested, send resume to Western Sales Trading Company by email to [wstcospan@pticom.com](mailto:wstcospan@pticom.com) or by fax at 670-322-9408. Proof of qualifications and police clearance required within three days of hire.

Emerenciana A. Delos Reyes  
& Jordan A. Agulto  
P.O. Box 503195  
Saipan, MP 96950  
Tel: (670) 235-3239/ 286-8080

*pro se*

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT  
OF THE  
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN  
MARIANA ISLANDS**

IN RE THE GUARDIANSHIP ) **FCD GU**  
OF ) **CIVIL ACTION**  
Jose San Nicolas ) **NO. 13-0562**  
Delos Reyes )  
An Incompetent ) **NOTICE OF**  
By ) **HEARING**  
)  
)  
Emerenciana Arriola )  
Delos Reyes and )  
Jordan Reyes Agulto )  
Petitioner )

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a petition for Appointment of Guardianship for the above-named by Emerenciana Arriola Delos Reyes and Jordan Reyes Agulto, Petitioners, was filed with the above-entitled Honorable Court and is open for review at the office of the Clerk of the said Court in Susupe, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

A HEARING of said petition for Guardianship will be held at the above-entitled Honorable Court at Guma Husticia Building, Susupe, Saipan, NMI, before Kenneth L. Govendo on the 9th day of January, 2014 at 10:30 AM or as soon as thereafter.

Patrick V. Diaz  
Clerk of Court  
/s/  
Deputy Clerk of Court

Roberto Dlg. Manalo and  
Elizabeth V. Manalo  
P.O. Box 503342 CK  
Saipan, MP 96950  
Telephone No 234-2967

PRO SE

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE  
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN  
MARIANA ISLANDS**

IN THE MATTER OF ) **FCD AD**  
ADOPTION OF: ) **CIVIL ACTION**  
K.J.V.M. ) **NO. 13-0501**  
DOB: July 24, 2013 )  
Minor Child ) **NOTICE OF**  
By ) **HEARING**  
)  
)  
ROBERTO DLG. MANALO )  
AND ELIZABETH V. MANALO )  
Petitioners )

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Petition for Adoption for the above-named minor child by Roberto Dlg. Manalo and Elizabeth V. Manalo, was filed with the above-entitled Honorable Court.

A HEARING of said petition will be held at the above-entitled Honorable Court at Guma Hustisia Building, Susupe, Saipan, NMI, on the 30th day of December, 2013 at 1:30 P.M. or as soon as thereafter.

Patrick V. Diaz  
Clerk of Court  
/s/ Clerk of Court

**COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY**  
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT  
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950  
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962  
E-mail Address: [cpa.admin@pticom.com](mailto:cpa.admin@pticom.com) • Website: [www.cpa.gov.mp](http://www.cpa.gov.mp)

**JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT  
# 03-2013**

**Opening date: December 17, 2013** **Closing date: January 3, 2014**

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) announces the following job vacancy:

**Position:** (1) Accountant-I (Saipan)  
(1) AOA Controller/Ground Maintenance-I (Tinian)  
(1) Vessel Traffic Controller-I (Port of Saipan)

Employment Application must be accompanied with a copy of all required diploma/certificates and/or official transcripts, original copy of recent police record not more than six (6) months old, original copy of U.S. Department of Defense Form DD214 for retired members or veterans of our Armed Forces, and other documents as required for the position. Public Law 11-70 requires that all male applicants age 18 to 25 years old must submit documentation evidencing his registration with the Federal Selective Service System. All applications and required documents must be submitted to the CPA Administration Office, 2nd Floor Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport. Failure to provide any of the required documents may result in automatic disqualification. Certain vacancies may require written and/or physical test. Selected applicants will be subjected to pre-employment drug screening. CPA reserves the right to waive or implement other qualifications to meet its needs. The deadline for submission of applications and required documents is no later than **4:30 p.m., Friday, January 3, 2014.**

Detailed information on qualifications and position description for the above positions shall be picked up along with the application form during regular working hours at the CPA’s Administration Office (2nd Floor) of the Saipan International Airport, Arrival Wing. For more information, please contact the CPA Human Resources by email at [rita.omar@cpa.gov.mp](mailto:rita.omar@cpa.gov.mp) or by phone at (670) 237-6500.

CPA is an Equal Opportunity Employer and CPA hires those who are legally entitled to employment in the CNMI.

/s/ MaryAnn Q. Lizama  
Executive Director

**JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT**

**Century Tours, Inc.** is inviting qualified candidates to fill the following positions:

**Operations Clerk (03)**

**Job Duties:** Plan, create, arrange and operate tour and travel programs. Responsible for organizing and preparing tour itineraries to make sure meeting visitors requirements. Provide and organize vacation and holidays packages by coordinating and negotiating with airlines, hotels, ground transportation services, tour guides and sightseeing providers, restaurants and other similar businesses, as per contact and agreed customer service levels. Develop and maintain smooth working relationship with customers and business partners both in China and domestic. Provide advice on sightseeing and shopping activities, report any problems to related supervisor/manager, and solve problems with accommodations, itineraries or service, etc. Perform related administrative tasks such as processing paperwork and maintaining files and working comfortably both independently and within a team. Assist the Department Manager in achieving his/her objectives. Input and update of bookings records. Other duties as assigned.

**Requirements:** Minimum of 1 year of operation experience. High school education minimum. Good command of English and Chinese. Good computer skills and familiar with internet applications. Good writing and communication skills. Focus on details and thoroughness. Able to work with a team & under pressure. English and Chinese speaker preferred.

Applications may be obtained at the Century Tours, Inc. Office at the Kanoa Resort, Ground Floor located on Beach Road in Susupe, Saipan while resumes may be emailed at [camille.orallo@saipan.travel](mailto:camille.orallo@saipan.travel). All resumes and applications must be submitted to the Human Resources Department at the Century Tours, Inc. Front Office no later than Thursday, December 26, 2013. Incomplete or late applications will not be accepted. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing may be required prior to employment.

*We are an Equal Employment Employer.  
Women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.*

**PACIFIC CENTURY INC.,**  
is seeking US citizens to lead as

**General Manager**

**Duties and Responsibilities:** Manage a small retail business with multiple locations on Saipan. Manage the competitiveness, profitability and growth of the company. Duties includes planning, developing strategic and operation plans, managing cash flow and liquidity, evaluating product lines and displays, setting customer services to attract and achieve customer retention, overseeing purchases, and achieving budget and minimizing cost variances, ensuring security and loss prevention management and regulatory compliance, acquiring technological and achieving service advantages from retail management software and networked POS systems. Train a young un-experienced Management Trainee/Owner for take-over in the medium term. Flexible hours are expected, to manage opening and closings of multiple stores.

**Qualifications:** Applicants must have at a minimum a bachelors or undergraduate degree in business or management from an **AACSB** accredited University. **Conceptual training of at least one course each in business policy, marketing management, operations management, management/cost accounting, business finance and management systems from an accredited business school are required.** The firm operates in a saturated and very competitive retail environment. Applicants are required to have at least ten years business experience with last four years hands on experience of retailing FMCG, food and meat products on Saipan. Salary range is \$5,000-\$6,000 per month, depending on experience.

Interested and qualified applicants are invited to submit a resume, police clearance and salary expectations by mail to P.O. Box 504514, Saipan MP 96950 by 30th December 2013. All applicants must submit a copy of their tertiary qualifications and employment references with telephone contact numbers for verification. **U.S. citizens are sought for this position.** THIS IS A MANAGEMENT POSITION, AND WE WILL NOT ENTERTAIN WALK IN APPLICANTS OR PHONE ENQUIRIES. Only applicants that meet the above requirements will be notified for an interview.

Pacific Century Inc., is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



# Overdrive

## Hyundai makes the most of Santa Fe name

By MARK PHELAN  
DETROIT FREE PRESS

Hyundai introduced the Veracruz a few years ago to compete with family crossovers like the Chevrolet Traverse, Ford Explorer and Honda Pilot.

It flopped. Chevy frequently sold more Traverses in a month than Hyundai did Veracruz in a year. The Korean automaker researched shoppers who were looking for big crossovers and learned most had never heard of the Veracruz.

Hyundai thought the best way to fix that was to give their family-sized crossover a fun-sized name, and the 2013 Santa Fe was born. The five-passenger midsize crossover that replaced the old Santa Fe last year was renamed the Santa Fe Sport.

The bigger new six- or seven-seat Santa Fe replaced the Veracruz this year. It has a 290-horsepower, 3.3-liter V-6 and six-speed automatic transmission. There were few changes from the 2013 model I tested to the 2014 edition that's arriving at Hyundai dealerships now.

Prices for the 2014 Santa Fe start at \$29,800 for a front-wheel-drive model. All-wheel-drive starts at \$31,550.

I tested a top-of-the-line Santa Fe Limited AWD model with an interior wrapped in saddle-style brown leather. It stickered at \$37,985 and came with a big sun roof, touch screen, navigation, 550-watt Infinity sound, heated first-



MORGAN J SEGAL/HYUNDAI/MCT

The 2014 Hyundai Santa Fe is the brand's replacement for its Veracruz SUV.

and second-row seats, second-row captain's chairs, a six-passenger configuration, Bluetooth phone and music compatibility and more. All prices exclude destination charges.

To my disappointment, the 2013 didn't offer memory for the driver's settings and blind spot alert, features common on vehicles in this price range. Both features are available as options on the 2014.

The Santa Fe is smaller than most competitors, but has a roomy and pleas-

ant passenger compartment. Appealing soft materials cover most surfaces, but the gaps between some pieces of trim are large. The third-row seats are best left to kids, but the middle row is fine. That's not unusual for three-row crossovers, which are built to compete with minivans, not limousines.

The Santa Fe's smaller size shows up in its cargo compartment. The space behind the third row seat is smaller than most competitors'. It'll hold three or four grocery bags, but not much more.

The voice-recognition system works well with hands-free phone calls and the nav system.

The Santa Fe's power and acceleration are more than adequate, but the engine gets loud when the transmission holds a gear during strong acceleration. The steering, ride and handling are unremarkable, providing comfort without drawing attention.

The Santa Fe's fuel economy is among the best in its segment at an EPA-rated 18 mpg in the city, 24 high-

### NUTS & BOLTS

#### 2013 Hyundai Santa Fe Limited AWD:

- **Type of vehicle:** All-wheel-drive six-passenger crossover
- **Rating:** Three out of four stars
- **Reasons to buy:** Passenger space; looks; interior materials.
- **Shortcomings:** Lack of common features; cargo space; CD player malfunction.
- **Engine:** 3.3-liter 24-valve V-6.
- **Power:** 290 horsepower at 6,400 rpm; 252 pound-feet of torque at 5,200 rpm
- **Transmission:** Six-speed automatic
- **EPA fuel economy rating:** 18 mpg city/24 highway/20 combined. Regular gasoline
- **Wheelbase:** 110.2 inches
- **Length:** 193.1 inches
- **Width:** 74.2 inches
- **Height:** 66.5 inches
- **Curb weight:** 4,297 lbs.
- **Base price:** \$29,800
- **Price as tested:** \$37,985

All prices exclude destination charge.

way and 20 combined. Only the Pathfinder beats that among the competitors I've named. Despite Hyundai's eye-catching styling, the Veracruz never drew much attention. The Santa Fe's familiar name should attract more family shoppers to this pleasant crossover.

### In Celebration of His New Life

## †Joaquin Rufag Sablan

September 20, 1939 – December 19, 2013

#### In His New Life, He Now Joins His:

**Wife:** †Francisca Rogopes Sablan  
**Son:** †Marvin R. Sablan  
**Parents:** †Maria Malus Rufag & †Sylvestre Torres Sablan  
**Maternal Grandparents:** †Fernando Rufag & †Maria Pierre Malus  
**Paternal Grandparents:** †Joaquin San Nicolas Sablan & †Geronima Salas Torres  
**Parents In-Law:** †Patricia Itibus Laniyo & †Jose Saralu Rogopes  
**Sisters & Brothers:** †Jesus, †Ramon, †Fernando R. Sablan & †Consolacion S. Rasiang  
**Brother In-Law/Sister In-Law:** †Sylvestre Rasiang & †Marietta Quimbao Laniyo

#### His memories will forever live in the hearts of his:

**Wife:** Yuefang Xing Sablan  
**Children:** Elaine Marie Camacho (Azgar Chokider), Travis John Joaquin Jr. (Ana R. Hofschneider), Francine Marie (Joseph Naputi), John Joseph, Jocine Calyn Sylvestre (Ana Maria Limes), Marlene, Delvin James, Shyanne & Shantelle Ada

#### Brothers & Spouse:

Vicente Rufag Sablan & Frances  
 Manuel Rufag Sablan & Julie D

#### Sister In-Law & Brother In-Law:

Ramona Rogopes Innocente & Simeon  
 Jesus Manuel L. Laniyo

He is also survived by numerous nieces, nephews, grand nieces/nephews and god children

Daily mass of intention and rosary offered at San Jose Church. On December 24, Tuesday, rosary is 12pm. On December 25, mass offer for 9am and rosary 7:30pm. On December 26, mass is 6am and rosary 7:30pm.

Our beloved Father, Joaquin, will be escorted from Commonwealth Health Center Chapel at 7:30am to Mt. Carmel Church for last respect. Responso and viewing will begin at 8am. Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11am followed immediately by the Interment at Chalan Kanoa Cemetery.

Your presence, thoughts and prayers are deeply appreciated.

*Thank You - Ghillisow - Si Yu'us Ma'ase*  
**Yuefang Xing Sablan and Family**

### IN CELEBRATION OF HIS NEW LIFE

## †Eduardo P. Pangilinan

August 26, 1947 – December 23, 2013

#### In his new life, he now joins his:

**Parents:** †Martin Nuqui Pangilinan Sr. & †Teresita David Pangilinan  
**Parents In-Law:** †Rafael Masangcay & †Maria Masangcay

#### His memories will forever live in the hearts of his:

**Wife:** Mercedes Masangcay Pangilinan  
**Children and Grandchildren:**  
**Edmer M. & Miriam D. Pangilinan** (Justin Joshua, D. Pangilinan, Eva Christabel D. Pangilinan, Jamie Marie D. Pangilinan)  
**Everly M. & Lorena M. Pangilinan** (Martin Angelo M. Pangilinan, Heather Angel M. Pangilinan)  
**Edward Michael M. & Suzanne T. Pangilinan** (Edward Michael T. Pangilinan Jr., Sania Torres)  
**Princess P. & Jayson Palacios** (Jayla P. Palacios, Jayce Javen P. Palacios)  
**Prince Martin Paul Pangilinan**

#### Brothers, Sisters And In-Laws:

†Ernie P. Pangilinan  
 Alegria P. Tongol  
 Elizer P. & Lumi R. Pangilinan  
 Edwin P. & Perlita S. Pangilinan  
 Eden P. & Judy T. Pangilinan  
 †Martin P. Jr. & Chicako M. Pangilinan  
 Ener P. & Rosita M. Pangilinan

Alice P. & Rod Miranda  
 Agnes P. & Henry Sanchez

He will be missed by numerous nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends.

Memorial Services will be held on Friday, December 27, 2013 at Assemblies of God Auditorium – Grace Christian Ministries. Viewing will be from 8:00A.M. – 8:45A.M. Memorial Services will begin at 9:00A.M. Interment Services will be at Santuario Pax Memorial Garden, Kagman at 10:30A.M. where he'll be at a peaceful rest.

Your Thoughts and Prayers are greatly appreciated.

Thank You Maraming Salamat Po  
**Mercedes (Mercy) Pangilinan,**  
**Children and Family**





## Life & Style

# Justin Timberlake finds harmony in 'Llewyn Davis'

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Justin Timberlake, so often shuttling between movies and music, for once didn't have to choose.

In the Coen brothers' "Inside Llewyn Davis" Timberlake plays a supporting role as a cheery, sweater-wearing 1960s folk musician. But he also collaborated with producer T Bone Burnett on the movie's memorable period songs and helped shape the film's most unforgettable and comic tune, "Please Mr. Kennedy."

"It's the first time that I've gotten to kind of do a lot of things that I love to do at the same time," Timberlake said in a recent interview by phone from the road, where he's on tour. "It will always be a milestone for me to get to write, sing, act and bring it all together."

For the multitasking Timberlake (Burnett calls him "a quadruple threat"), the film was a rare chance to combine his talents: a Coen playground staked out between worlds Timberlake usually navigates separately. Some fans and media seem to want him to pick a side: musician or actor.

"I don't even know what I



This file film image released by CBS Films shows, from left, Oscar Isaac, Justin Timberlake and Adam Driver in a scene from "Inside Llewyn Davis."

am, man," he chuckles.

The various Timberlakes are uniquely on display at the moment. "Inside Llewyn Davis" opens nationally Friday. He's in the midst of touring "The 20/20 Experience," his Grammy-nominated return to music after

a spell in movies like "The Social Network." And this weekend, he's the musical guest on "Saturday Night Live," where the former Mouseketeer first revealed his comedy chops.

The folk revival music of "Inside Llewyn Davis" is quite

a distance from Timberlake's "Suit and Tie" or "My Love," but Burnett doesn't think much of genre divisions.

"He's from Memphis, says Burnett. "He's an R&B singer, basically. But he's got a beautiful voice and he's got incredible

tone and he can sing anything he wants to. A song is a song."

"Inside Llewyn Davis" is about a struggling and bitter folk musician (the title character, played by Oscar Isaac) in 1961 Greenwich Village, the cusp of Bob Dylan's arrival. Timberlake plays a friend of his with a rosier outlook and less concerns with selling-out. The movie is filled with full performances of songs, all but one of which were recorded live.

Work on the film began with the music: "We found the characters through the type of music they did," says Timberlake.

Timberlake went to Burnett's Los Angeles home to work on "Please Mr. Kennedy." The song, whose chorus goes "Please Mr. Kennedy, don't shoot me into outer-space," is the comedic high point of the film, and one of the strangest songs that will ever be credited to Timberlake (along with Burnett and the Coens). The premise, Burnett says, was astronaut John Glenn having second thoughts.

The song is roughly based on "Please Mr. Kennedy," a 1962 novelty song by the Goldcoast Singers that pleads to the president not to be shipped off to Vietnam. It went through sev-

eral other different iterations through the 60s. (Because the song is based on previously recorded material, it's ineligible for an Academy Award.)

"There was a novelty song and then there was a parody of the novelty song," says Burnett. "Then there was another parody of the novelty song. Now we've done a rewrite on a take-off of a parody of a novelty song."

While working on the song with Burnett, Timberlake wanted to get his own guitar, so the two stopped into a music shop in San Fernando Valley. Burnett says Timberlake "put some sex into it, put some swing into it."

"I just started strumming these chords and strumming in a way that we felt was almost like (the Beach Boys') 'Surfin' Safari' or a Coasters tune," says Timberlake. "It was just one of those things where when the punch lines fit in with the melody so good. We kind of just wrote the song in the back of this guitar shop."

When the song was later recorded in the studio and on film, the silliness grew. Though "Please Mr. Kennedy" becomes a hit in the film, it's everything Llewyn detests about music. It's a pop music hell for him; he's just there for some quick cash.

## 'The Hobbit' holds off 'Anchorman 2' with \$31.5M

**NEW YORK (AP)**—On a busy pre-Christmas weekend at the box office, "The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug" held off a very different sequel, "Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues."

Peter Jackson's "Hobbit" sequel took in \$31.5 million in its second weekend of release for Warner Bros., according to studio estimates Sunday. Though the film isn't matching the pace of the first "Hobbit" movie, "An Unexpected Journey," "The Desolation of Smaug" is doing well abroad. It's now made more than \$400 million worldwide, including \$96 million internationally over the weekend.

The "Hobbit" topped Will Ferrell's "Anchorman" sequel, which nevertheless opened strongly in second

place. The Paramount Pictures comedy made \$26.8 million over the three-day weekend and \$40 million since opening Tuesday night.

The much-marketed "Anchorman 2" actually outperformed "The Hobbit" on Friday, but failed to best it over Saturday and Sunday. But the \$50 million comedy, which Paramount initially turned down, also suggested it will be more popular abroad than most comedies. It made \$13.4 million in six international markets.

The 2004 original opened with \$28.4 million, but only grossed \$5.3 million internationally.

The pre-Christmas weekend is a sought-after release date, one that usually offers films

1. **"Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug,"** \$31.5 million (\$96 million international).
2. **"Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues,"** \$26.8 million (\$13.4 million international).
3. **"Frozen,"** \$19.2 million (\$35.1 million international).
4. **"American Hustle,"** \$19.1 million.
5. **"Saving Mr. Banks,"** \$9.3 million (\$5.5 million international).
6. **"Hunger Games: Catching Fire,"** \$8.8 million (\$11 million international).
7. **"Tyler Perry's A Madea Christmas,"** \$8.5 million.
8. **"Walking With Dinosaurs,"** \$7.3 million (\$13.8 million international).
9. **"Dhoom 3,"** \$3.3 million (\$2.1 million international).
10. **"Thor: The Dark World,"** \$1.3 million.

especially good legs at the box office as moviegoers flood theaters over the coming weeks. The weekend box office was up nearly 30 percent over the same weekend last year.

Despite some high-profile summer bombs, the 2013 box office is on track to narrowly surpass last year's record box office of \$10.8 billion, with one weekend to go in the year.



This file film image released by Warner Bros. Pictures shows a scene from "The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug."

## Lt Gov: Duck Dynasty important to La. Tourism

**NEW ORLEANS (AP)**—Louisiana's lieutenant governor says the "Duck Dynasty" reality TV show is important to state tourism—and he could help connect the Robertson family with new producers if they cannot reach agreement with the A&E network.

The network suspended patriarch Phil Robertson last week for telling GQ magazine that gays are sinners akin to adulterers and swindlers.

"Regardless of one's views on Phil Robertson's statements, Duck Dynasty has been an important representation of the state of Louisiana, inspiring prospective visitors and investors since its debut," Lt. Governor Jay Dardenne said in a statement emailed Saturday.

The show is produced around the Robertson family's home base in Ouachita Parish. KNOE-TV of Monroe reported in February that the show was bringing people from around the country who wouldn't otherwise stop in northeast Louisiana. The Duck Commander warehouse has become a tourist attraction, said Alana Cooper, director of the Monroe-West Monroe Visitors and Convention Bureau.

Dardenne, whose job includes running the Department

of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, said the audience of tens of millions is eager to visit Louisiana.

"If the Robertson family cannot come to an agreement with A&E and wants to continue the show, Louisiana already has the infrastructure in place to maintain their record-breaking program," he wrote.

The lieutenant governor did not immediately answer a request for comment Sunday.

Dardenne, who authored the state's film and TV tax credit program, said he would use his influence in the state's industry to help the Robertsons.

Gov. Bobby Jindal said Thursday that everyone is entitled to express their opinions.

More than 1.7 million fans have liked an impromptu Facebook page titled "Boycott A&E Until Phil Robertson Is Put Back On Duck Dynasty"—one of numerous pages with similar names, though none of the others has even 1 percent as many "likes."

"Duck Dynasty" is on hiatus until Jan. 15. A network spokesman told the AP on Thursday that nine of next season's 10 episodes have already been filmed. That means Robertson likely isn't needed in front of the camera before next March.



# Soccer star Beckham will promote casinos in China

**LAS VEGAS (AP)**—Retired soccer star and sometime underwear model David Beckham has signed on to help promote Las Vegas Sands' properties in Singapore and the Chinese gambling enclave of Macau.

Sands said in a statement that it hopes to cash in on Beckham's popularity in the region.

The Las Vegas-based company is the largest casino operator in Macau, the center of the modern day gambling world.

The deal may help Sands win attention in mainland China, where casinos are illegal and casino advertising is also banned. Soccer is hugely popular in China.

Beckham appears to have started his new gig already.

In November, he posed for photographs with 100 local kids at the Venetian Macau and gave an hour-long interview. The



In this July 7, 2013, file photo, former soccer star David Beckham greets media and youth in Singapore at the Marina Bay Sands. AP

children were selected with the help of several local community groups, including the Macau Special Olympics and the Association of Rehabilitation of Drug Abusers of Macau.

Details about what the partnership will look like over the long term are scarce. Sands said it will use the Beckham brand in dining and retail options at its casinos.

Michael Leven, Sands' president and chief operating officer, said in a statement that the Beckham brand will help Sands "as we aggressively explore opportunities to further expand our presence in Asia."

Over the summer, Beckham staged a similar event in Singapore, meeting about 60 kids at a Sands casino there.

Sands owns four booming casinos in Macau. The Venetian Macau is the largest casino in the world.

## There are good reasons why grandpa's generosity varies

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN  
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

**DEAR ABBY:** I have some advice for "Lacking Why," the girl in your Oct. 18 column who is wondering why the amount of allowance money Grandpa gives her and her sisters varies from one girl to the other: Stop comparing the amounts and try focusing on how attentive each of you is to your grandfather.

Do you all visit him with the same frequency? Do you all write thank-you notes for his generosity? Do you all phone him the same number of times each week? Do you all remember his birthday with a nice card or small gift? Do you take turns baking him a birthday cake?

I suspect, as with my grandchildren, there are wide disparities in the way these sisters treat Grandpa. Why would a person who ignores him expect the same generosity as one who showers him with love and affection? I have two grown grandkids who treat me differently and, son of a gun, I respond in kind.

CONNECTICUT GRANDMA



*Dear Abby*

**DEAR GRANDMA:** Your explanation is one I received from other readers as well. That letter resonated with a large number of people, and what follows is a sampling of their responses:

■ ■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY:** Financially speaking, I'll bet there's a good reason for the disparity in the amounts "Lacking" and her sisters receive. If Grandpa intends that each granddaughter receive the same sum of money by age 18, and he started giving the money to each of them at the same time, he would HAVE to give them different amounts. This concept would be hard to explain to a child, which may be why the girls were never sure about the "why."

NUMBERS GUY IN SAN MATEO, CALIF.

**DEAR ABBY:** My father did the same thing. Each year I received more money from my dad than my brothers did. Eventually I asked him why, and it turned out he felt that over the years he had helped them more in other ways. They had lived at home longer than I had, and Dad had paid for their educations while I'd had a scholarship.

In his mind, he was trying to even things out. Funny thing was, it didn't matter to me. But I never told my brothers.

SOLVED THE PUZZLE IN DENVER

**DEAR ABBY:** The mother of those girls should be the one to broach the subject with her father. She can soften the response to her daughters and point out to her father the possible harm he may be causing within the family. But in the end, if Grandpa doesn't budge, they'll all have to learn to live with it.

KEN IN SARASOTA, FLA.

**DEAR ABBY:** I would recommend that they first discuss among themselves the differences in their own circumstances and their relationship with their grandparent. It might be that those in need, those who invest wisely or those who respond kindly receive more.

I help my kids and grandkids based on what their needs are and how they spend the money. It is not a matter of favoritism. And being thanked once in a while doesn't hurt, either.

PATRICIA IN TEMPE, ARIZ.

**DEAR ABBY:** "Lacking" and her siblings should not approach Grandpa. It could backfire and end the gift-giving forever. Instead, if all the sisters agree they are being unfairly treated, they should consider pooling the gifts together and dividing the total amount equally among themselves. This would be a mature solution that needn't be shared with their grandfather.

WISE OUT WEST

*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*

*To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable—and most frequently requested—poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.*

## Santana reunites with ex-bandmate, now homeless

**OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)**—A news reporter for a San Francisco television station has reunited rock guitarist Carlos Santana with a former bandmate he hadn't seen in decades and who now lives on the streets of Oakland.

Reporter Stanley Roberts ran into percussionist Marcus "The Magnificent" Malone while working on a story about illegal dumping last week, KRON-TV in San Francisco reports.

Although he initially was skeptical of the homeless man's claim that the Santana Blues Band got its start in his mother's garage in the late 1960s, Roberts checked out the story and confirmed it. And on Friday, he took Santana for a surprise visit to the camper where Malone has been staying.

"You don't know how afraid I am to let you see me," Malone said softly after he and the Rock and Roll Hall of Famer embraced.

"We cherish you," Santana replied. "It's an honor to be in your presence."

Santana has credited Malone with being an important influence on his Afro-Latin sound, according to former Rolling Stone magazine writer Ben Fong-Torres' book "Not Fade Away: A Backstage Ticket to 20 years of Rock & Roll."

Malone played congas on Santana's eponymous first album, but left the band in 1969 shortly before its seminal performance at Woodstock when he was imprisoned for manslaughter, according to Fong-Torres.

The two men told Roberts they had not seen each other since then. During their meeting on Friday, Santana promised to bring Malone a set of congas and to help him get on his feet.

## Beyonce talks surprise album, success at NYC event

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Despite all the hard work she put in on the songs and videos from her new album, Beyonce had her doubts minutes before its surprise release.

"I was terrified. I was so scared. I already envisioned like the worst things that could happen," Beyonce said Saturday at a screening for her new music videos. "I was really nervous because this was a huge risk."

The singer's fifth album debuted at No. 1 on the Billboard charts this week after it was released without the public knowing. "Beyonce" sold 617,000 units in the U.S. in a week; it has sold more than 1 million albums worldwide.

The album includes 14 songs and 17 videos, which fans were able to see during the screening at the School of Visual Arts in New York.

Beyonce answered fans' questions via Instagram, including one about her opening up

personally on the new album.

"I'm very private and I'm very respectful, and I think it just took me no longer being someone's child—once I became a mother, I felt like I could tear those fourth walls and I just felt like it was time," she said. "I completely feel liberated."

The album features collaborations with her husband Jay Z, Justin Timberlake, Drake and her daughter, Blue Ivy. "Beyonce" is the follow-up to 2011's "4," the first album the singer released on her production company, Parkwood Entertainment, after parting ways professionally with her father-manager, Mathew Knowles.

"I felt like I wanted follow in the footsteps of Madonna and be a powerhouse and have my own empire," she said to cheers from the crowd. "And (to) show other women when you get to this point in your career, you don't have to go sign with someone else and share your

money and your success, you can do it yourself."

The album's unconventional release became one of the year's top pop culture and social media moments. Beyonce, 32, said she became bored in the music industry after her last release, and the new album is a reflection of experimentation and growth.

"Honestly I was at a point where I felt like, you know, everything feels the same ... that's how I felt and if I could not challenge that, then maybe it's time for me to do something else or develop more artists, which is something I want to do," she said. "I just hope that I continue to move forward and challenge myself, and I think now that I've become a mother, I just want my legacy to inspire people."

She added that the goal of the new album was not to produce No. 1 hits, but to showcase her evolution and create her own lane.

## Tom Cruise, tabloids, settle defamation lawsuit

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—The publisher of two tabloid magazines said it never intended to imply that Tom Cruise had cut all ties to his daughter after his divorce and announced Friday that it had reached a settlement with the actor over two stories it published.

Bauer Publishing and Cruise's lawyer wrote in a joint statement that the terms of the settlement were confidential.

"Bauer Publishing, as well as In Touch and Life & Style magazines, never intended to communicate that Tom Cruise had cut off

all ties and abandoned his daughter, Suri, and regret if anyone drew that inference from anything they published," the statement read.

Cruise sued the company over stories published in its Life & Style and In Touch magazines in 2012 that claimed the actor hadn't been in contact with his daughter for several weeks after his divorce from actress Katie Holmes. The actor sued Bauer in October 2012 seeking tens of millions of dollars in damages.

His lawyer, Bert Fields, called the stories outrageous and said that Cruise spoke to his daughter

frequently while working on a pair of movie shoots that kept him overseas.

In a declaration filed in November, Cruise rejected the notion that he had abandoned his daughter, as the tabloid stories suggested.

"I have in no way cut Suri out of my life—whether physically, emotionally, financially or otherwise," Cruise wrote. He said despite filming back-to-back movies in the second half of 2012, he spoke to his daughter nearly every day and got frequent updates about her from Holmes.

## Polish pranksters stop tram to film Tolkien scene

**WARSAW, Poland (AP)**—It's almost like in J.R.R. Tolkien's "The Fellowship of The Ring." Gandalf stands in the way of Balrog and tells him to "go back to the shadow" to buy time for fleeing Frodo Baggins and his companions.

But the scene is Warsaw, not

the Mines of Moria. A Polish prankster dressed as Gandalf stops a city tram, which represents Balrog, and recreates the scene with several others dressed as Middle-earth characters.

Tolkien's Gandalf almost died in the confrontation, but

the Warsaw practical joker, called SA Wardega, just irritated the tram driver.

A YouTube video of the prank posted last week has gone viral with nearly 3 million views by Saturday, just days before Poland's premiere of the "The Hobbit" film sequel.



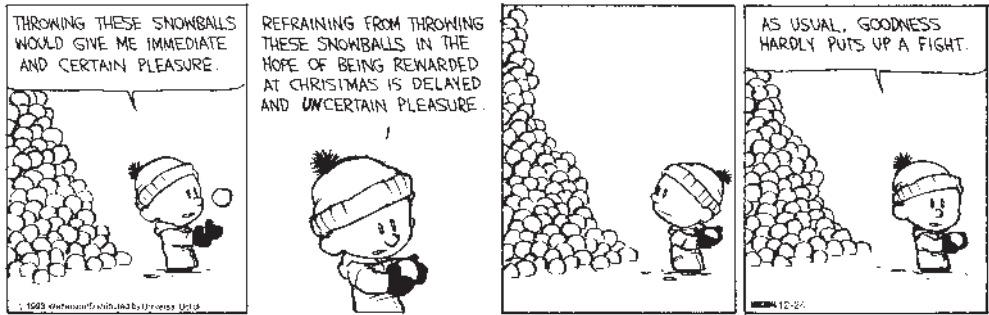
Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

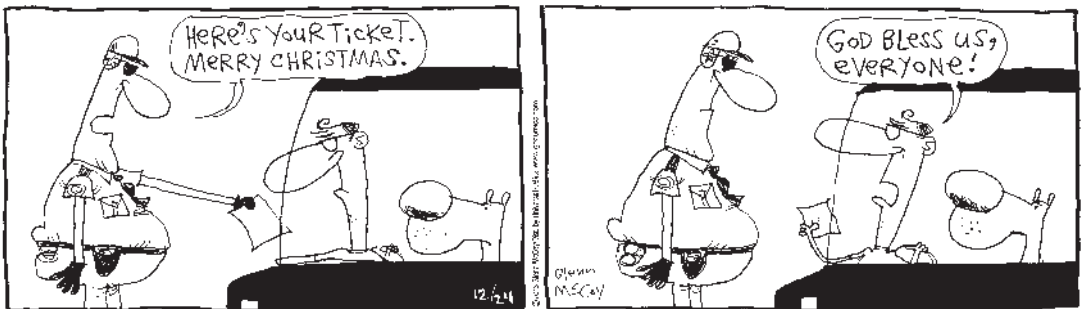
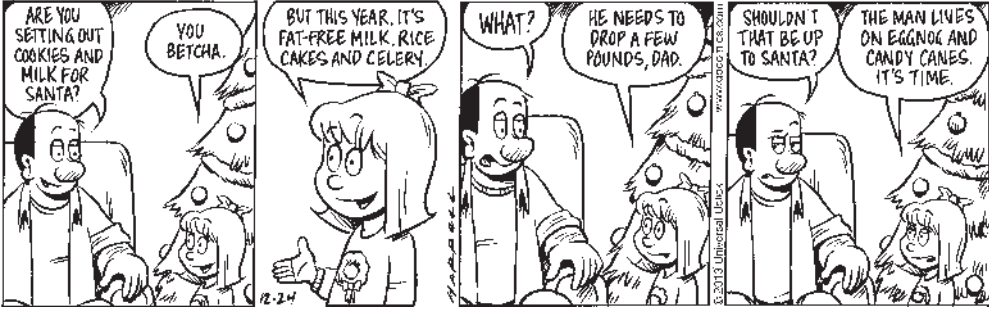


Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 1 Foot part 5 Founda- 8 Fed 12 Palm starch 13 "What Kind of Fool —?" 14 British river 15 Spur 17 Bread spread 18 Under the weather 19 Loose overcoat 21 Do refin- 24 Quarter- back 25 Commis- 26 Kathleen of the Obama cabinet 30 Altar constella- 31 Peaceful flock 32 Genetic stuff 33 Course summary

DOWN 1 Donkey 2 Snitch 3 Holly- wood (Abbr.) 4 Short sermon 5 "I Love Lucy" star 6 Ostrich's cousin 7 Strips 8 Very large 9 Think (over) 10 Cruising 11 Night light 16 Last (Abbr.) 20 Iowa city 21 Health resorts 22 Swamp- like 23 And others (Lat.) 24 Skit show 26 Recovers from a hangover 27 Persia, now 28 One 29 Without 31 Chip's pal 34 Half a legendary comedy team 35 Foreign corre- spon- dent? 37 Coquett- ish 38 Thing 39 Anti- toxins 40 Jib, e.g. 41 "— It Roman- tic?" 44 Rage 45 Shade 46 Actress Hagen 47 Junior

Solution time: 21 mins.

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER 12-24

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Ryan Seacrest, 39; Stephenie Meyer, 40; Ricky Martin, 42; Diedrich Bader, 47.

Happy Birthday: Remain grounded, no matter what happens around you, and your performance will outshine anyone trying to match you mentally, physically or emotionally. Opportunities will develop due to your integrity, knowledge and experience. Caution and diplomacy will be your ticket to success. Follow through with your well-thought-out plans. Partnerships will change and moving forward will be beneficial. Your numbers are 2, 8, 13, 20, 28, 37, 49.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Stick close to home and finish up odd jobs. Avoid excess and keep your emotions in check. Don't let criticism or conversations with people you must humor at this time of the year get to you. Avoid controversy.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Travel to be closer to the ones you love. Have fun, enjoy the banter and the group effort that helps make an enjoyable get-together spectacular. Add some high-spirited romance into the mix and you will have a memory for years to come.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Emotions will surface if you have overspent. Social gestures will not be sincere and a problem with honesty prevails. Say little, but listen carefully for any information that will help you make an important decision that will influence your status.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Spend time with people who have something unique to offer. Partnerships with people sharing similar interests and concerns will make

your day. You may have to make a last-minute change, but don't fret; just deal with it and keep moving.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Take care of family and work responsibilities before you join in any festivities happening at home or in your community. Rushing off to a unique destination or taking a journey that offers excitement and plenty of physical activity should be considered.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): If you've left your shopping or traveling to the last minute, this is a great day to get things done. Heading from one destination to another will result in meeting people who have a unique way of celebrating.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Make adjustments to ensure that you end the year void of any conflicts and stress that have held you back. Shake things up a bit. Focus on being at your very best and eliminating anyone or anything that has been excessive.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Embrace life and the joy of the festive season. Make travel enjoyable by sharing the time with someone special. You have plenty to look forward to and are likely to learn a great deal from the people you reconnect or travel with today.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Don't let someone's bad mood or attitude cause you grief. Focus on your home, family and making your surroundings interesting and comfortable. Good fortune comes from giving back, helping others and trying your best. Respect everyone's beliefs and traditions.

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Express your gratitude and make positive alterations at home and to the way you live. Don't let a last-minute change someone makes ruin your plans. Caution while traveling will be necessary. Refuse to argue; exude patience and tolerance.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Get your personal paperwork in order and take care of any last-minute business that could alter your financial, medical or legal situation in the new year. A change in the way you receive, earn and handle money will pay off.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): A romantic relationship will excel if you make a commitment or uphold a promise. Joint ventures appear to be very settling and beneficial. Share your thoughts, ideas and plans for the future. Pick up something you know will please the one you love.

Birthday Baby: You are proactive, alert and determined. You are goal oriented.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ http://bit.ly/exhoro and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

Difficulty Level ★★

12/24

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

Difficulty Level ★

12/23

WONDERWORD By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

NEGOTIATING Solution: 7 letters

SSLIATEDARRANGE  
URODNEVDEALLEST  
COSTSYLMTRNYURA  
CECIRPOEIIENREB  
EULAVHSPWNDFMFE  
SLLIKSEOOEOPFND  
SAPKTERMRSLEPOI  
SGELTTESNOIAVCS  
HRAHTTSYUBTELC  
OEECTRACETSIIIAO  
PEEANIROSAAREHO  
PMDDTCAPELGNCGN  
IEICOMPETEACAUT  
NNADJUSTCLIENTS  
GTNEMYAPMANAGET

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Yesterday's Answer: Afrikaans

To purchase THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volume 27, 31, 35, 36, 37 or 38 call 1-800-642-6490. Order online at wonderword.universalclic.com. (Contains 43 puzzle sets.)

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.



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(1) Cook. Salary \$5.55. Minimum of 2 years experience. Call 433-5333, Island Garden.

(1) Restaurant Supervisor. Salary \$5.55. Minimum of 2 years experience. Call 433-5333, Island Garden.

(2) Janitor and Cleaner, (8) Household Worker, (2) Maintenance and Repair Worker, \$5.55/hr, send resume to MTO Maintenance (Saipan), Inc. P.O. Box 504053, Saipan MP 96950.

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We buy used cars! Accepting all make and models from 97' & up. Call 287-8688 DPA CAR MART

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(1) **Store Manager** – min. 5 yrs work related exp., must speak, write & read Chinese & Japanese. Flexible working hrs, \$5.55 - \$6.00/hr.

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Applicants should mail their resume with job reference to PMB 1118 Box 10003, Saipan, MP 96950, American Saipan Best Corporation dba Saipan Best Shopping Market

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Must have 2 years lab experience, plus experience in clinical embryology.

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Interested applicants may send their resume to [bmchen8@yahoo.com](mailto:bmchen8@yahoo.com) masseuse

**Deadline to submit application will be end on January 15, 2014**

**JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT**  
**WINCHELL'S DONUTS**

1 vacancy for **Operations Manager**. Wage per hour depends on qualifications. Must be college level with at least 5 years of continued experience in managing a bakery or similar operations; must be capable of managing 15 or more people and more than one store; must be computer literate and possesses knowledge in operating cash register or POS system; must have an experience in handling the administrative and financial aspect of a business. Capability of conversing in basic Japanese or other foreign languages is highly preferred.

1 vacancy for **Store Manager**. Wage per hour depends on qualifications. Must be college level and has at least 2 years of continued experience in managing bakery operations; must have knowledge in operating cash register or POS system; must be customer-service oriented, computer literate and confident in doing basic mathematical skills. Capability of conversing in basic Japanese or other foreign languages is highly preferred.

4 vacancies for **Donut Makers/Bakers**. Wage ranges from \$5.55/hr to \$5.70/hr. Must be a high school graduate with an equivalent of at least 4 years experience in baking; must be able to read, write and speak basic English; must be capable of lifting at least 50lbs and has basic mathematical skills and knowledge in operating a cash register or POS system. Capability of conversing in basic Japanese and other foreign languages is highly preferred.

**Additional requirements:** All applicants must be of good health with good moral character. Must be able to follow grooming standards; provide current police/court clearance and health certificate. Must have reliable transportation and must undergo a drug test.

Applications may be obtained and submitted at Winchell's Garapan from 8am to 12pm or email them at [dennys@guam.net](mailto:dennys@guam.net)

**HEALTH PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION**  
Job Vacancy Announcement

**(02) REGISTERED NURSE**

- Must pass NCLEX.
- Certification in Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation.
- English Language skills-proficient in spoken, written and comprehension.
- At least two to three years in experience.
- Must hold a degree of Bachelors of Science in nursing.
- Must be flexible with time schedule.

Interested applicants must submit resume or pick up application at Saipan Health Clinic in Chalan Kiya, Saipan. Deadline to submit an application will be on December 31, 2013 by 4:00p.m.

For more information, please call Judy Arriola at (670) 234-2901 ext. 124

**St. Jude Renal Care Facility, Inc.**  
Job Vacancy Announcement

**(06) Hemodialysis Technician**

- Certificate from a Junior College/Technical School in healthcare.
- Attended a hemodialysis-training program.
- Three year hemodialysis experienced-preferred.
- Must be CCHT certified by the Nephrology Nursing Certification Commission.
- English Language skills-proficient in spoken, written, and comprehension
- Certification in Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
- In-Service train with Baxter Phoenix Machine
- Experience with Ameriwater Bicarbonate distribution system
- Flexible with time schedule.

**(01) Licensed Practical Nurse**

- Must pass NCLEX-LPN and current CNMI LPN License
- Attended a hemodialysis training program
- One to four years hemodialysis experience or related field
- English Language skills-proficient in spoken, written, and comprehension.
- Certification in Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
- In-service train with Baxter Phoenix Machine.
- Experience with Ameriwater Bicarbonate Distribution System

Interested applicants must submit resume or pick up application at St. Jude Renal Care Facility Inc., in Chalan Kiya, Saipan. Deadline to submit application will be on Tuesday, December 31, 2013 by 4:00p.m. For more information, please call Judy Arriola at (670) 234-2905 ext. 124

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# Manning's big day leads Broncos over Texans, 37-13



**HOUSTON (AP)**—Peyton Manning owns the NFL record for touchdown passes in a season and the Denver Broncos own the AFC West title.

Manning regained his record with 51 when he threw for 400 yards and four touchdowns, including three in the fourth quarter. He surpassed the 50 TD passes Tom Brady threw in 2007 and led the Broncos (12-3) to a 37-13 win over the Texans (2-13) that extended Houston's franchise-record skid to 13 games.

Manning did it on a 25-yard pass to Julius Thomas with 4:28 remaining. Just 2 ½ minutes earlier, he tied the mark with a 20-yard pass to Eric Decker.

He entered the game with 47 and his first touchdown came on a 36-yard pass to Demaryius Thomas in the second quarter. The second was a 10-yard throw to Decker earlier in the fourth period.

Manning had previously established the record by throwing 49 touchdown passes in 2004.

The Broncos already had a spot in the playoffs, but their victory, combined with Kansas City's loss to Indianapolis, gave them the division crown. They could secure home-field advantage throughout the playoffs if New England doesn't win its late game at Baltimore.

## Panthers 17, Saints 13

In Charlotte, N.C., Cam Newton threw a 14-yard touchdown pass to Domenik Hixon with 23 seconds left to lift the Panthers to the team's first playoff berth since 2008. Carolina (11-4) can wrap up the NFC South and a first-round bye with a win next Sunday at Atlanta.

The Panthers intercepted Drew Brees twice and sacked him six times to avenge a 31-13 loss two weeks ago.

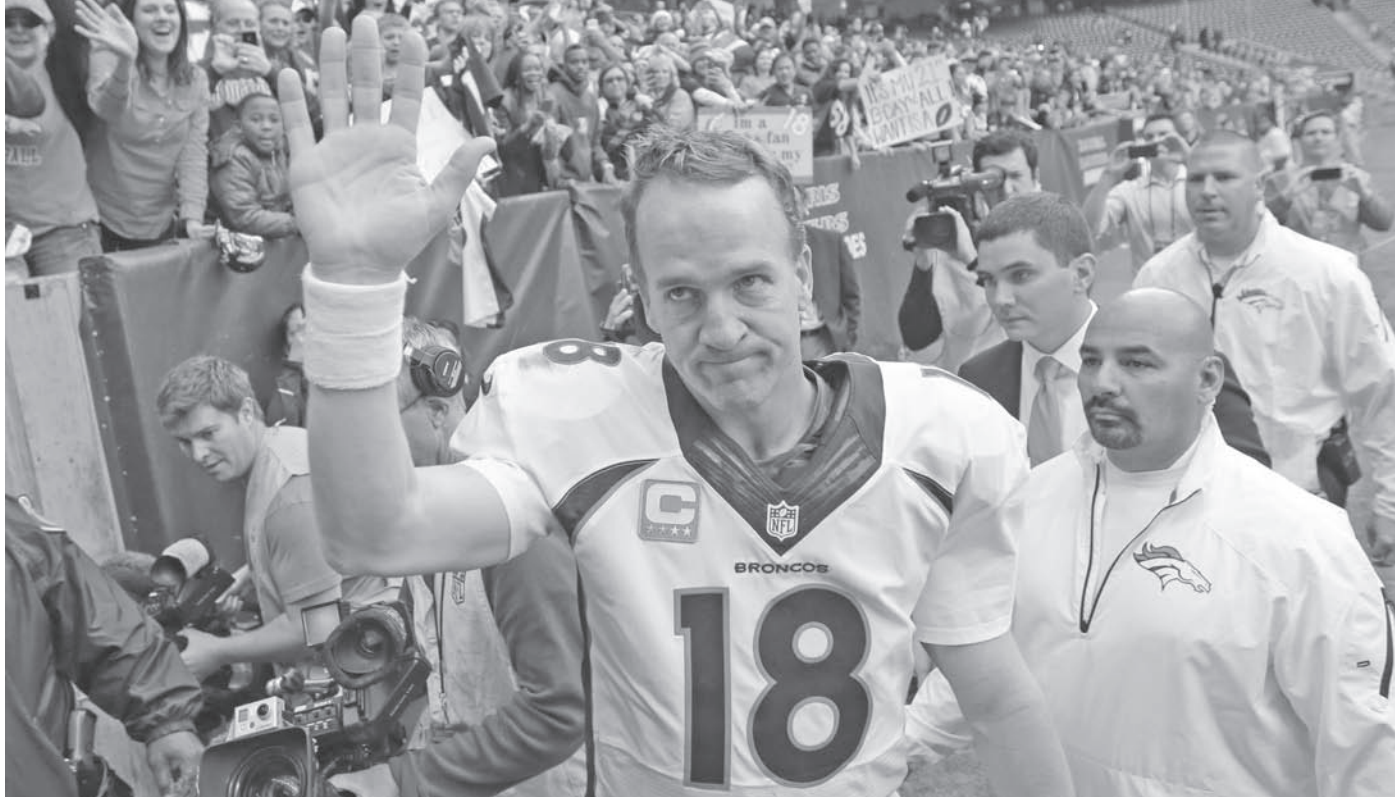
Still, the Panthers needed some last-minute big plays from Newton. After being held to 116 yards passing for the game's first 59 minutes, Newton led the Panthers 65 yards in 32 seconds for the winning score.

## Bengals 42, Vikings 14

In Cincinnati, Vincent Rey returned an interception 25 yards for a touchdown as Cincinnati clinched the AFC North. Andy Dalton threw four touchdown passes.

The Bengals (10-5) remained perfect at home and secured an unprecedented third straight playoff appearance when Miami lost at Buffalo. Then the Bengals won the division when the Ravens fell to the Patriots.

In his past four home games, Dalton has thrown for five, three, three and four touchdowns. The Bengals have topped 40 points in each of their past four home games, a club record.



Denver Broncos' Peyton Manning (18) waves to fans following an NFL football game against the Houston Texans, Sunday, Dec. 22, 2013, in Houston.

## Cardinals 17, Seahawks 10

In Seattle, Carson Palmer overcame four interceptions to throw a 31-yard touchdown to Michael Floyd with 2:13 left. The Cardinals kept their postseason hopes going while snapping the Seahawks' 14-game home win streak.

Arizona (10-5) had to win after Carolina beat New Orleans. And the Cardinals did thanks to a stingy defense that flustered Russell Wilson into one of his worst days as a pro, delaying any celebration of an NFC West championship. The Seahawks can still clinch the NFC West with a win over St. Louis next Sunday.

## Patriots 41, Ravens 7

In Baltimore, Logan Ryan had two interceptions, LeGarrette Blount scored twice and the Patriots ended the Ravens' four-game winning streak.

The previous time these two teams met, the AFC title hung in the balance and Baltimore used a strong second half to pull out a 28-13 victory. In this one, New England took a 17-0 lead early in the second quarter and never let up behind a defense that forced four turnovers and had four sacks.

It was Baltimore's most lopsided loss since a 37-0 defeat at Pittsburgh in 1997. Things went so bad for the Ravens that Justin Tucker's run of 33 straight field goals ended when he went wide left on a 37-yarder.

## Steelers 38, Packers 31

In Green Bay, Wis., Le'Veon Bell ran for a 1-yard touchdown with 1:28 left, then Pittsburgh withstood Green Bay's last throw into the end zone and dealt the Packers' playoff hopes a blow.

It's a long shot, but the Steelers (7-8) are still mathematically in the hunt for an AFC wild-card spot. They need a lot of help.

The loss meant Green Bay (7-1) needed Chicago to lose at

Philadelphia on Sunday night to stay in playoff contention.

Bell's TD came soon after scrambling Packers quarterback Matt Flynn fumbled while being tackled by Troy Polamalu. The Steelers recovered at the Packers' 17 and scored five plays later.

## Eagles 54, Bears 11

In Philadelphia, Nick Foles threw two touchdown passes, LeSean McCoy ran for two scores and Philadelphia routed Chicago in a matchup of first-place teams with opposite stakes.

Chicago's loss sets up two winner-take-all games for NFC division crowns next week.

The Bears (8-7) came in needing a win to clinch the NFC North and secure the No. 3 seed while Philadelphia was just trying to stay healthy. But the Eagles (9-6) played like the team trying to lock up a playoff berth.

Now, the Bears must tie or beat the Packers (7-7-1) at home next week to win the North.

The Eagles have to tie or beat the Cowboys (8-7) in Dallas next Sunday night to win the NFC East and complete a worst-to-first season under rookie coach Chip Kelly. Once Dallas rallied to beat Washington earlier, the Eagles knew they were only playing for a No. 3 seed if even they win the division.

## Colts 23, Chiefs 7

In Kansas City, Mo., Andrew Luck threw for 241 yards and a touchdown, Donald Brown ran 51 yards for another score in a potential preview of an AFC wild-card game.

The Colts (10-5), who have already wrapped up the AFC South, took advantage of four turnovers by the Chiefs (11-4) to win for the fifth time in their last six tries against Kansas City.

If Indianapolis ends up as the No. 4 seed in the playoffs—the Chiefs are assured the fifth seed—the teams will meet again in the warmer environs of Lucas

Oil Stadium.

After missing his first field-goal attempt, Adam Vinatieri hit his next three despite frigid temperatures and swirling winds at Arrowhead Stadium. He came into the game needing one point to pass fellow kicker Jason Elam (1,983) for the seventh-most points in NFL history.

## Bills 19, Dolphins 0

In Orchard Park, N.Y., the Dolphins had a three-game winning streak snapped and are in jeopardy of missing the playoffs for a fifth consecutive season. With the loss, Miami (8-7) needs help from other teams. Miami hosts the New York Jets next weekend.

The Dolphins' loss clinched the AFC East for New England.

Kyle Williams had two of Buffalo's season-best seven sacks to key a stifling defensive performance.

Fred Jackson had 111 yards rushing and scored on a 9-yard run, while the Bills limited the Dolphins to a season-low 103 yards and six first downs. The Bills (6-9) closed their home schedule with seven sacks for 56 this season, breaking their previous high of 50 during a 14-game season in 1964.

The shutout was Buffalo's first since a 23-0 win over Washington at Toronto on Oct. 30, 2011. And it was the Bills' first shutout at Ralph Wilson Stadium since a 21-0 win over Miami on Dec. 17, 2006.

## Cowboys 24, Redskins 23

In Landover, Md., Tony Romo recovered from a bad interception and rallied the Cowboys from a nine-point, fourth-quarter deficit. He found DeMarco Murray for a 10-yard touchdown pass on fourth down with 1:08 remaining.

The victory ended a two-game Dallas skid—as well as a five-game December losing streak—and sets up a winner-take-all regular season finale for the NFC

East title next week, when the Cowboys (8-7) host the Philadelphia Eagles.

The Redskins (3-12) lost their seventh straight, the second in a row by one point. Pierre Garcon (11 catches, 144 yards) broke Art Monk's single-season franchise reception record, while coach Mike Shanahan clinched his worst record in his 20 seasons as a head coach.

## Chargers 26, Raiders 13

In San Diego, the Chargers beat hapless Oakland by overcoming three turnovers while benefiting from two turnovers and 12 penalties for 73 yards by the Raiders.

Philip Rivers threw a go-ahead, 4-yard touchdown pass to rookie Keenan Allen and Ryan Mathews ran for 99 yards and one touchdown, setting a career high with 1,111 yards. Nick Novak kicked four field goals for San Diego.

The Chargers also got help from Buffalo, which beat Miami 19-0, and New England, which beat Baltimore. The Chargers (8-7) have won three straight games for the first time this season, but need more help to end a three-year playoff drought. They have to beat Kansas City at home next Sunday and have Miami and Baltimore both lose.

Oakland (4-11) helped San Diego, too, by committing all those penalties.

## Giants 23, Lions 20, OT

In Detroit, Josh Brown's 45-yard field goal on the third drive of overtime lifted the Giants and knocked the Lions (7-8) from postseason consideration. They lost for the fifth time in six games, blowing fourth-quarter leads in each setback that might seal Jim Schwartz's fate.

The embattled coach chose to play for overtime by running out the clock with 23 seconds and two timeouts left from the Detroit 25. When the crowd reacted with a chorus of boos, Schwartz

turned his head toward the stands and appeared to angrily shout back at the fans.

Schwartz has lost nine straight games in December or January, leading to his job being in jeopardy.

The Giants (6-9) overcame Eli Manning's interception late in regulation and Andre Brown's fumble on the opening possession in overtime to win for the second time in five games.

## Rams 23, Buccaneers 13

In St. Louis, Robert Quinn got three of St. Louis' seven sacks and set a franchise season record. Quinn leads the NFL with 18 sacks. He broke Kevin Carter's franchise record of 17 in that 1999 Super Bowl title season.

Zac Stacy rushed for 104 yards on 33 carries and a touchdown, and the Rams (7-8) matched their victory total from last year. Fellow rookies Stedman Bailey scored on a 27-yard reverse, and Alec Ogletree forced two fumbles.

The Rams won without left tackle Jake Long, who injured his knee on the first series. Coach Jeff Fisher believes Long tore a knee ligament.

## Jets 24, Browns 13

In East Rutherford, N.J., Geno Smith threw two touchdown passes to David Nelson and ran for another score. Smith had his first game with at least two TD passes since October, with no turnovers or sacks. The rookie was 20 of 36 for 214 yards and also ran for 48 yards—including a 17-yard scoring scamper in the fourth quarter.

Chris Ivory rushed for 109 yards on 20 carries for the Jets (7-8), who were eliminated from the playoff picture last week. Nelson, cut by the Browns after training camp, finished with four catches for 33 yards.

Jason Campbell was intercepted twice as the Browns (4-11) lost their sixth straight. Edwin Baker had a touchdown run, and Josh Gordon was somewhat held in check by rookie Dee Milliner, catching six passes for 97 yards.

## Titans 20, Jaguars 16

In Jacksonville, Fla., Nate Washington scored on a 30-yard reception in the fourth quarter and Tennessee got a much-needed defensive stop late to end a three-game losing streak.

Tennessee (6-9) overcame a 10-point deficit in the second half and won for just the third time since September. Washington finished with six catches for 117 yards.

The Jaguars (4-11) were in position to take the lead after that, but Ropati Pitoitua stuffed Maurice Jones-Drew on a fourth-and-1 play at the Tennessee 20 with 5:21 remaining.

The highlight for the Jaguars came when Jacksonville honored retiring center Brad Meester with a reception—the pass-catching kind.



# Raptors hand Thunder first home loss of season



**OKLAHOMA CITY (AP)**—If the Toronto Raptors can play at home the way they've been playing on the road, they might just remain atop the Atlantic Division for a while.

Kyle Lowry scored 22 points, making a pair of clinching free throws with 9.8 seconds left, and the Raptors handed the Oklahoma City Thunder their first home loss with a 104-98 victory on Sunday night.

The Raptors outscored Oklahoma City 6-0 in the final 1:25, all on free throws, and ended the Thunder's nine-game winning streak. Oklahoma City had been 13-0 at home, the NBA's longest unbeaten stretch to open a season since the Cleveland Cavaliers won their first 23 home games during the 2007-08 season.

Amir Johnson had 17 points and 13 assists for Toronto, which won its fourth straight road game, its longest such streak since March-April 2002. Oklahoma City lost for the first time since Dec. 4 at Portland.

Toronto coach Dwane Casey called the win, which moved the Raptors past Boston into first place in the Atlantic, his team's biggest of the season. Toronto's road streak began with a victory over the Los Angeles Lakers on Dec. 8 and the Raptors added wins at Chicago and Dallas before beating the Thunder.

"It's one of those mysteries we have, of our focus on the road," Casey said. "We're a different team. I see it in our eyes before the game."

Russell Westbrook scored 27 points and Kevin Durant added 24 for Oklahoma City, which missed its final four shots.

Veteran forward John Salmons, who scored 14 points and hit the go-ahead free throws for Toronto, said winning on the road "just shows our mental toughness as a unit. Sometimes it's fun to play on the road, because it's just us against everybody else."

Toronto will play at San Antonio on Monday.

Oklahoma City surged ahead with a 24-4 run during the third quarter that gave the Thunder an 82-71 lead. Toronto regained the lead in the fourth before a 3-pointer by Durant tied the game, but Salmons hit two free throws with 1:25 left to put Toronto up 100-98.

The Thunder's next two possessions ended in a missed 3-point attempt by Reggie Jackson and a block by Valanciunas on a layup attempt by Westbrook, with Toronto winning the scramble for the loose ball.



Toronto Raptors guard Kyle Lowry (7) shoots in front of Oklahoma City Thunder forward Serge Ibaka (9) during the first half of an NBA basketball game, Sunday, Dec. 22, 2013, in Oklahoma City.

energy down the stretch, Durant answered, "Nah."

Toronto went 7 of 14 from 3-point range and scored on its final nine possessions of the first half, turning a five-point deficit into a 62-56 half-time lead. The 62 points were the second-most surrendered in the first half this season by Oklahoma City.

Oklahoma City clamped down on defense in the third quarter, allowing the Raptors only 13 points, matching their season low for a quarter.

DeMar DeRozan added 17 points for Toronto and Valanciunas had 13.

## Clippers 120, Timberwolves 116, OT

In Los Angeles, Jared Dudley made a go-ahead 3-pointer with 38 seconds remaining in overtime and Chris Paul made five free throws in the final 19 seconds, leading Los Angeles over Minnesota.

Blake Griffin had 32 points and 10 rebounds and was an uncharacteristic 10 for 11 from the free throw line before fouling out with 4:08 left in OT. The defending Pacific Division champions extended their winning streak to a season-best five games while beating the Timberwolves for the eighth straight time, their longest current streak against any opponent.

Jamal Crawford had 22 points for Los Angeles. Paul finished with 19 points and 13 assists.

Kevin Love had a season-high 45 points and tied a season best with 19 rebounds for the Timberwolves, back at Staples Center after their 104-91 loss to the Lakers on Friday night. Nikola Pekovic had a career-high 34 points and 14 boards.

## Pacers 106, Celtics 79

In Indianapolis, Paul George scored 24 points and Lance Stephenson recorded his third triple-double of the season, leading Indiana over Boston.

Stephenson had 12 points, 10 rebounds and 10 assists as Indiana (22-5) won its second straight and maintained its grip on the Eastern Conference's best record. He's the only player in the league with more than one triple-double this season.

Avery Bradley scored 13 points for Boston. Courtney Lee and Jeff Green each had 11 in coach Brad Stevens' return to his hometown. Stevens grew up in Zionsville, an Indy suburb, and led nearby Butler to back-to-back national championship games as the Bulldogs' coach.

But there was no magic for the Celtics, who lost their third in a row.

## Rodman yet to meet with Kim, but says game is on

**PYONGYANG, North Korea (AP)**—Dennis Rodman may not get to meet with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un on his latest visit to the country, but he said that won't stop him from coming back on Kim's birthday next month to hold an exhibition game with other former basketball stars.

On the night before he was due to leave Pyongyang, Rodman told The Associated Press on Sunday that he had not yet had a meeting with Kim. The flamboyant Hall of Famer said that he didn't expect to meet the leader every time he comes to North Korea, and that his current trip was for training North Korean basketball players who will take part in the match Rodman is organizing for Kim's birthday on Jan. 8.

"I'm not just coming over here to meet the leader," Rodman said. "I came over here to meet the basketball team, to prepare a great game for the leader for his birthday. And people need to understand that it's not important for me to meet him every time I come over because he has another greater job to do for his country, and I respect that, but this trip was basically to come over to train the team, so we can have a great, great, game."

Rodman's visit comes just



Former NBA basketball star Dennis Rodman plays one-on-one with north Korean player during a basketball practice session in Pyongyang, North Korea on Friday, Dec. 20, 2013.

after the dramatic purge and execution of Kim's once-powerful uncle, which has sparked speculation among some foreign analysts over how stable Kim's regime is. But officials here say that there is no instability and that Kim remains firmly in control.

Rodman wants to bring 12 former NBA stars to Pyongyang for the exhibition, but has acknowledged that some of the Americans have been reluctant to come. He has held tryouts for the North Korean team during his visit, which began Thursday. He has said he expects

to announce the U.S. roster soon, and that he is planning another game in June.

Rodman and Kim have struck up an unlikely friendship since the former NBA star traveled to the secretive state for the first time in February with the Harlem Globetrotters for an HBO series produced by New York-based VICE television. Rodman is the highest-profile American to meet Kim since the leader inherited power from his father in late 2011.

Rodman has avoided politics in his dealings with the North and has steered clear of commenting on the country's human rights record or its continued detainment of American Kenneth Bae for allegedly committing anti-state crimes.

"A lot of people in America don't approve of what I've been doing, but that's not my problem," he said. "You know, a lot of people want me to come over here and do some special things, but that's not my problem, I can't deal with that, I'm not, I'm not an ambassador."

To keep next month's game friendly, Rodman said the former NBA players would take on the North Koreans in the first half, but that the teams would be mixed for the second half.



# Tanaka says he wants to pursue career in MLB

**TOKYO (AP)** — Pitcher Masahiro

Tanaka wants to move to Major League Baseball next season but his Japanese team doesn't want to let him go.

MLB and Nippon Professional Baseball's new posting system caps the fee for players at \$20 million, less than half what Japanese teams received for pitchers Yu Darvish and Daisuke Matsuzaka.

"I informed my team that I would like them to allow me to test my abilities in Major League Baseball next season," Tanaka said at a news conference on Tuesday after a meeting with Rakuten Eagles President Yozo Tachibana.

Tanaka, a 25-year-old right-hander, went 24-0 with a 1.27 ERA with the Rakuten Golden Eagles of the Pacific League during the regular season. He will not become eligible for free agency until after the 2015 season and can move to MLB only if the Eagles agree to post him.



Rakuten Golden Eagles pitcher Masahiro Tanaka speaks at a press conference after a meeting with his club president, in Sendai, northern Japan Tuesday, Dec. 17, 2013.

The Eagles, who won the Japan Series, voted against the new posting agreement in

balloting by Japan's 12 teams on Monday and say they want Tanaka to remain with them for next season.

"We told him he is very important to us and we'd like him to stay," Tachibana said.

Under the rules of the three-year agreement announced Monday, a Japanese club may make players available between Nov. 1 and Feb. 1 and may set a price of up to \$20 million.

Starting with the day after a player is posted and continuing for 30 days, any big league team willing to pay the fee may attempt to sign the player. A major league team pays the posting fee only if it signs the player, and the fee is then payable in installments, with the timing dependent on the amount.

A player who is not signed may not be posted again until the following Nov. 1.

Under the previous agreement, which began in 1998 and ran through last offseason, there was no cap on bidding and only the MLB team

with the highest bid could negotiate with the player.

Boston obtained Matsuzaka from the Seibu Lions before the 2007 season for \$51,111,111.11, and agreed to a \$52 million, six-year contract. Texas got Darvish from the Hokkaido Nippon Ham Fighters before the 2012 season for \$51,703,411 and gave him a \$56 million, six-year deal. Darvish finished second in this year's AL Cy Young Award voting.

After the initial three years, the new agreement will continue on a one-year basis unless either side gives notice to terminate 180 days before it is scheduled to renew.

While Japanese teams were not happy with the cap on prices, some major league teams had objected that only the richest clubs could afford to bid on top players.

"We are pleased to have amicably reached an agreement that addresses various issues raised by all parties," said Rob Manfred, MLB's chief operating officer.

## Youkilis agrees to \$4M, 1-year deal with Rakuten

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Kevin Youkilis is leaving the major leagues after an injury plagued season and heading to Japan.

The three-time All-Star has agreed to a one-year contract with the Rakuten Golden Eagles of Japan's Pacific League.

"They made it very apparent right from the start they were quite interested in Kevin being there," agent Joe Bick said Friday.

A 34-year-old first baseman and third baseman, Youkilis will have a \$4 million base salary and can earn \$1 million in bonuses—including some based on walks, a provision not allowed in major league contracts.

After nine seasons with the Boston Red Sox, Youkilis signed a \$12 million, one-year deal with the New York Yankees. But his back started to bother him in mid-April, and an epidural injection didn't improve a lumbar spine sprain.

Sidelined from April 27 to May 31, he went back on the DL on June 13, had surgery a week later to repair a herniated disk and didn't return. Youkilis hit just .219 with two homers and eight RBIs over 28 games and 105 at-bats.

"There's no reason to believe he's anything less than 100 percent," Bick said. "Workouts are going normally."

Youkilis has a .281 average in 10 big league seasons with 150 homers and 618 RBIs, and he earned a World Series ring with the 2007 Red Sox.

At Rakuten, Youkilis may become teammates with star pitcher Masahiro Tanaka, who went 24-0 last season. While Tanaka wants to join the major leagues, Rakuten is reluctant to make him available in the new posting season, and the 25-year-old right-hander can't leave as a free agent until after the 2015 season.

"We were talking with eight or nine other clubs over here," Bick said. "In the final analysis, he said the right thing for my family and me is to go do this. It will be a wonderful life experience."

## FAKE

From Page 28

ing three goals. Five other Astig Futsal players scored with Allan Hinson and James Ermitanio contributing two goals apiece, and Krizel Tuazon, Diana Ma-

niacop, and Chevy Kate Alipio gaining one each.

Angel Sally hit all her three goals in the first half, which ended with Astig Futsal way ahead, 9-0. Completing Astig Futsal's roster are Mia Carreon, Mareko Tekppua, Emman-

uel Aniana, and Steve Martin. Kanoa Mighty Orange has Joey and Christine Noble, Theresa Toves, Wayne Lizama, Sebastian Manabat, Ian Maniago, and Erica Santiago.

The four participating teams will play in the double-round

robin preliminary with the Top 2 teams after six games advancing to the finals and the bottom two battling meeting in the battle for third place. Games are played every Saturday, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

## OLEAI

From Page 28

maintaining the ground two to three times a week," NMASA executive director Tony Rogolifoi said in an email to *Saipan Tribune*.

As for the restrooms, which have been a cause of concern for majority of the users of the complex, Rogolifoi said they went through a major facelift. The complex staff replaced all bathroom sets in the men's and women's rooms at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

"We also replaced old and dilapidated doors, toilet sets, and lavatories at the restrooms facing the track facility. These restrooms we re-opened for use after sitting idle for almost a decade," Rogolifoi said.

The two ballfields—Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield and Miguel "Tan Ge" Pange-

linan Ballfield—and their surrounding areas have been cleaned and improved, while the floor at the Ada Gym was polished. The office inside the gym was reorganized and bad smell from the old and dirty carpets were gone.

"It (office) looks a lot cleaner and more presentable to the public," Rogolifoi said.

At the "Tan Ge" field, tall grasses, bushes, and overgrown trees at the old batting cage area near the Sun Palace Hotel were cut and cleared. At the "Tan Ko" field, the concrete portion of the window facing the bleachers on the first base side on the second floor of the press box was demolished and replaced with a new solid wood door for easy access to the outside extension. Rogolifoi added they demolished old louver windows at the press box and installed new sliding glass win-

dows.

With these developments, Rogolifoi said they are asking for the public's cooperation in keeping the complex clean. He also urged the public to follow usage rules on the facilities around the complex.

"With NMASA having jurisdiction over the Oleai Sports Complex as of October, we are mandated to ensure that we comply with established laws that created this body. Included in this law is the authority vested in this sports body to levy and collect reasonable fees for the use of these facilities. We have started implementing these fees and thus far, it is working out as we had expected. NMASA will release the final fee schedule to take effect in January. In the meantime, we ask the public's patience and understanding as we are working diligently to upgrade these

facilities before the full slate of sports activities kicks off in the upcoming months," Rogolifoi said.

"I would advise the public using the track facility for their daily fitness routine to be careful while walking or running on the track as some sections of the rubberized surface poses danger. Soccer activities are held almost on a daily basis and I asked players to be alerted when crossing the track to retrieve balls. Track events are also held at this facility and the public is advised to use only the designated lanes and to respect these athletes while training or competing," the NMASA executive director added.

Rogolifoi also said more upgrades at the complex are lined up for next year. For more information about the usage and reservation of the facilities, call 234-6672.

Hair Studio and JOS Corp.

Others teams that competed in the second season of the DL Corp. caging were inaugural season champion Adobo, Chinatown, Saipan Ice & Water, Kixx Enginge Oil, Fliptop, and Fong's Bakery of Pool A and Pool B's San Roque, Island Manpower, CJ Cheries, Maplas, and Natural Mystic.

League commissioner Sonny Ebuena thanked all the participating teams and their sponsors for supporting the competition.

## CAMACHO

From Page 28

backcourt. All these hustle plays happened in the last 7.5 seconds of the fourth quarter.

Camacho finished the title match with 12 points, as his and Rolly Paraiso's inside game allowed Docomo to recover from an 2-14 deficit in the first period. Camacho was then awarded a wooden trophy for winning the Finals MVP honors and also made it to the Mythical Team.

Joining the Docomo forward on the elite group are Island Floral's Cecilia Bisana, San Antonio's Bryle Alegre, NMI Contractor's Leo Galarce, and I Love Saipan's Mike Olaitiman. Olaitiman was also named regular season MVP for bringing the upset-minded I Love Saipan to the semifinals.

Olaitiman was the leading scorer for I Love Saipan, averaging more than 20 per game. I Love Saipan finished the round-robin regular season with a 2-5 record and was the

last team in Pool B to make it to the playoffs. In the playoffs, I Love Saipan stunned two seeded foes to advance to the Final Four. Olaitiman averaged 23 points in those two victories and was still the top-scorer (22) for this team when it lost to Docomo, 63-77, in the semifinals.

Meanwhile, wooden trophies were also awarded to the champion team Docomo, runner-up San Antonio, third finisher Island Floral, and fourth placer I Love Saipan. The trophies were donated by

## TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS					NFL STANDINGS						
EASTERN CONFERENCE					AMERICAN CONFERENCE						
Atlantic Division					East						
	W	L	Pct	GB		W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Toronto	11	14	.440	—	y-New England	11	4	0	.733	410	318
Boston	12	17	.414	1	Miami	8	7	0	.533	310	315
Brooklyn	9	17	.346	2½	N.Y. Jets	7	8	0	.467	270	380
New York	8	18	.308	3½	Buffalo	6	9	0	.400	319	354
Philadelphia	8	20	.286	4½							
Southeast Division					South						
	W	L	Pct	GB	y-Indianapolis <td>10</td> <td>5</td> <td>0</td> <td>.667</td> <td>361</td> <td>326</td>	10	5	0	.667	361	326
Miami	20	6	.769	—	Tennessee	6	9	0	.400	346	371
Atlanta	15	12	.556	5½	Jacksonville	4	11	0	.267	237	419
Washington	12	13	.480	7½	Houston	2	13	0	.133	266	412
Charlotte	13	15	.464	8							
Orlando	8	19	.296	12½	North						
Central Division					y-Cincinnati <td>10</td> <td>5</td> <td>0</td> <td>.667</td> <td>396</td> <td>288</td>	10	5	0	.667	396	288
	W	L	Pct	GB	Baltimore	8	7	0	.533	303	318
Indiana	22	5	.815	—	Pittsburgh	7	8	0	.467	359	363
Detroit	13	16	.448	10	Cleveland	4	11	0	.267	301	386
Chicago	10	16	.385	11½							
Cleveland	10	16	.385	11½	West						
Milwaukee	6	21	.222	16	y-Denver <td>12</td> <td>3</td> <td>0</td> <td>.800</td> <td>572</td> <td>385</td>	12	3	0	.800	572	385
WESTERN CONFERENCE					x-Kansas City <td>11</td> <td>4</td> <td>0</td> <td>.733</td> <td>406</td> <td>278</td>	11	4	0	.733	406	278
Southwest Division					San Diego	8	7	0	.533	369	324
	W	L	Pct	GB	Oakland	4	11	0	.267	308	419
San Antonio	21	6	.778	—							
Houston	18	10	.643	3½	NATIONAL CONFERENCE						
Dallas	15	12	.556	6	East						
New Orleans	11	14	.440	9	Philadelphia	9	6	0	.600	418	360
Memphis	11	15	.423	9½	Dallas	8	7	0	.533	417	408
Northwest Division					N.Y. Giants	6	9	0	.400	274	377
	W	L	Pct	GB	Washington	3	12	0	.200	328	458
Portland	23	5	.821	—							
Oklahoma City	22	5	.815	½	South						
Denver	14	12	.538	8	x-Carolina <td>11</td> <td>4</td> <td>0</td> <td>.733</td> <td>345</td> <td>221</td>	11	4	0	.733	345	221
Minnesota	13	15	.464	10	New Orleans	10	5	0	.667	372	287
Utah	8	22	.267	16	Atlanta	4	10	0	.286	309	388
Pacific Division					Tampa Bay	4	11	0	.267	271	347
	W	L	Pct	GB							
L.A. Clippers	20	9	.690	—	North						
Phoenix	16	10	.615	2½	Chicago	8	7	0	.533	417	445
Golden State	15	13	.536	4½	Green Bay	7	7	1	.500	384	400
L.A. Lakers	13	14	.481	6	Detroit	7	8	0	.467	382	362
Sacramento	8	18	.308	10½	Minnesota	4	10	1	.300	377	467
					West						
	W	L	Pct	GB	x-Seattle	12	3	0	.800	390	222
					San Francisco	10	4	0	.714	349	228
					Arizona	10	5	0	.667	359	301
					St. Louis	7	8	0	.467	339	337
					x-clinched playoff spot						
					y-clinched division						
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS											

x-clinched playoff spot  
y-clinched division

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



# 2013 NMIFA/PSS Interscholastic U12 Football League

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Whispering Palms' Sunjoon Tenorio wins the Golden Boot Award and poses with coach Jeff Race during the awards ceremony for the 2013 NMIFA/PSS Interscholastic U12 Football League held this month at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.



Golden Glove awardee Clayton Izuka of Saipan International School poses with coach Bruce Berline.



Whispering Palms' Guinevere Borja poses with her Golden Boot award and coach Mark Epley.



Players and coaches of Saipan International School pose with their runner-up trophy.



San Antonio Elementary School players and coaches pose for a group photo after winning the runner-up trophy in the girls division.



San Antonio Elementary School players and coaches pose with their runner-up trophy.



Players and coaches of William S. Reyes Elementary School pose for a group photo after getting the third place trophy.



Players and coaches of William S. Reyes Elementary School pose with their fourth place trophy in the boys division.



Players and coaches of Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School pose with their fourth place trophy.



Golden Glove awardee Amber Montenegro poses with Whispering Palms coach Mark Epley.





Manning's big day leads Broncos over Texans, 37-13  
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# Saipan Tribune Sports



Raptors hand Thunder first home loss of season  
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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

## Fake Madrid, Astig Futsal win

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

**F**ake Madrid and Astig Futsal prevailed in the opening day matches of the Saipan Soccer School's 2013 U13 Co-ed Christmas Futsal Tournament last Saturday at the TSL Sports Complex.

Fake Madrid played in the first match and routed Foot Loose, 6-1, while Astig Futsal cruised past Kanoa Mighty Orange in the second game, 10-0.

Guinevere Borja led Fake Madrid's victory, as she completed a hat-trick, while Edwin Kim chipped in two goals, and Sunjoon Tenorio added one. Borja and Kim dropped two

goals each in the first half, lifting Fake Madrid to a 4-1 halftime lead. Chad Shankweiler drilled the lone goal for Foot Loose.

Borja completed the hat-trick in the second half, while Tenorio also made it to the board in the final 25 min-

utes of play. Besides Tenorio, Borja, and Kim, Fake Madrid listed five other players on its roster—Cole Chambers, Cody Leon, Lyka Sally, Logan Mister, and goalkeeper Clayton Izuka.

Joining Chad Shankweiler

on the Foot Loose crew are his sister Pinyarat, Bernadette Horey, John Michael Roxas, Dave Tanghal, Christian Castro, Jherico Tiamzon, and James Garcia.

Meanwhile, in the second game, Angel Sally anchored Astig Futsal's demolition of Kanoa Mighty Oranger after fir-

**See FAKE on Page 26**



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Foot Loose and Kanoa Mighty Orange's female players battle for possession during their game in the Saipan Soccer School's futsal tournament last night at the TSL Sports Complex.

## Oleai Sports Complex undergoes improvements



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

Significant improvements at the Oleai Sports Complex have been seen since the Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association took over the management of the facility about two months ago.



A cleaner and more welcoming complex is now greeting the public as regular maintenance work is being done at the complex and old fixtures are either replaced or improved.

"We hired a ground maintenance crew to spruce up the entire area, including the fence line at the eastern side of the track facility, which is now visible from the main road. It used to be a jungle. The crew is

**See OLEAI on Page 26**

## Camacho gets Finals MVP award



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Docomo Pacific's Juan Camacho poses with his Finals MVP and Mythical Team trophies during the awards ceremony for the DL Corp. caging last Saturday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

It will be a merry Christmas for Juan Camacho, as he not only helped Docomo Pacific win the championship but also gained the Finals MVP award in the 2nd DL Corp. Invitational Basketball League.

The lanky Docomo forward took the coveted plum in the winner-take-all title game after making the heads-up plays

in their 72-69 victory over San Antonio last Saturday at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court. Camacho plucked a rebound after San Antonio's Nevin Salem muffed a game-tying basket and later fouled the former. Camacho went 1-for-2 from the stripe, upping Docomo's lead to three, and then secured the victory after stealing Ezra Caro's inbound pass to Salem at the

**See CAMACHO on Page 26**

A cleaner Oleai Sports Complex awaits the public.